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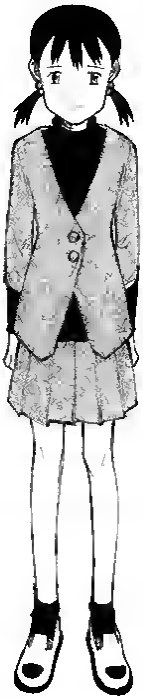
Chapter 48
Kana Ushiro (1)

Her brother
wasn't contracted.

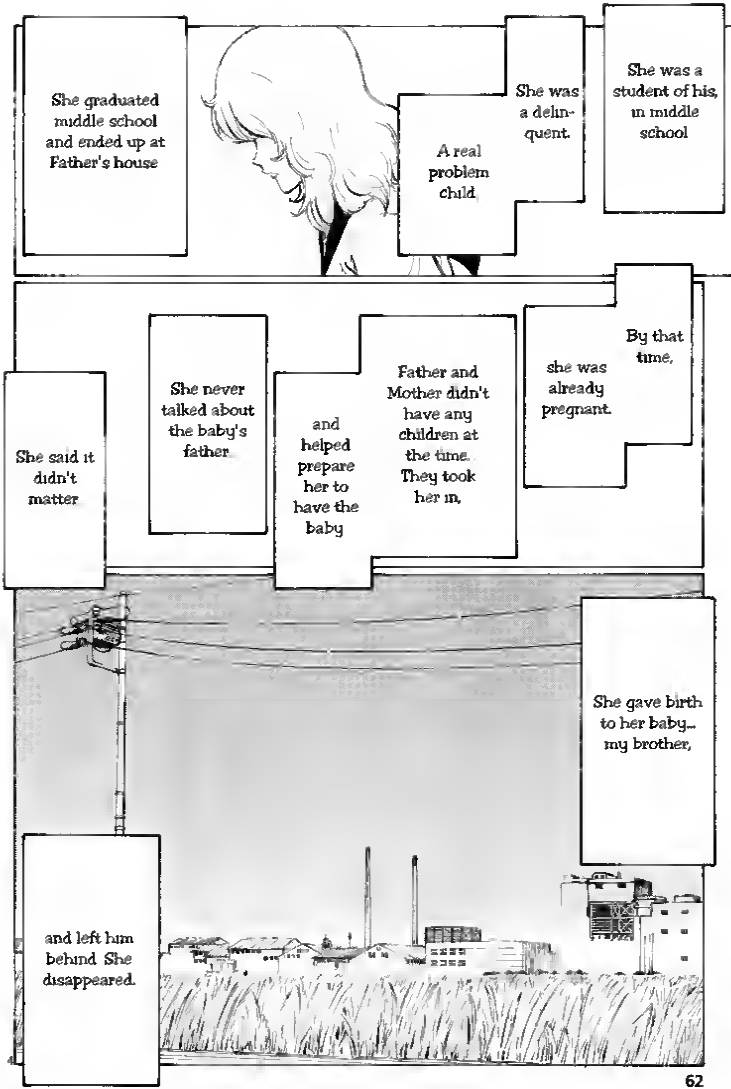
She wasn't supposed
to be contracted.



鬼頭
Kito Mohiro
莫宏

I want to help my brother see his mom
I especially wanted to do this when we learned that he and I
were going to die
2
He and I aren't really brother and sister.
But he doesn't know that.

I've always thought that.
Only his real mother can save him.
That means he'll need his mother even more.
He'll be left behind.
No. Actually,
He'll survive this ordeal.
After a while, I began to think that he might be the one not under the contract.
3
Father chose his words very carefully when he told me about her.
Jun's mother.


She graduated middle school and ended up at Father's house
She was a delinquent.
A real problem child
She was a student of his, in middle school
She said it didn't matter
She never talked about the baby's father
and helped prepare her to have the baby
Father and Mother didn't have any children at the time. They took her in,
she was already pregnant.
By that time,
She gave birth to her baby... my brother,
and left him behind. She disappeared.

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And from that point on, not even Father knew where Jun's mother went.

The girl's mother, Jun's grandmother, died soon after.

Mother and Father talked, and decided to foster Jun.

But she wasn't in any state to take in a child.

Her only relative was her mother.

That's why I asked Mrs. Tanaka

I have to look for his mother.

what kind of person his mother is.

I don't actually know

But it didn't work.

I thought someone more powerful than Father could find her.

It's been 13 years since she left him here,
so she's probably a very bad person.
Maybe nothing good would happen from bringing the two of them together again.
But I still wanted to find her
I think it will be the last thing I can do

6

Why didn't you tell me?
Wha...

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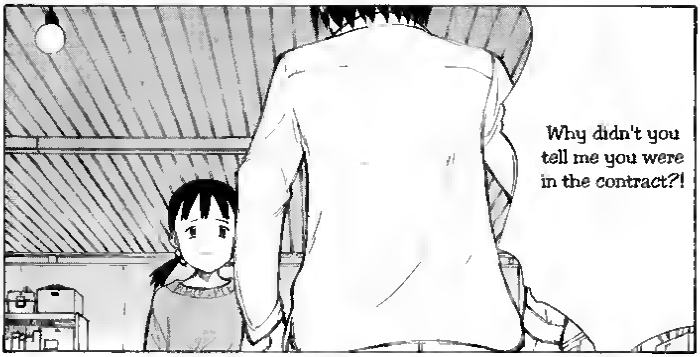
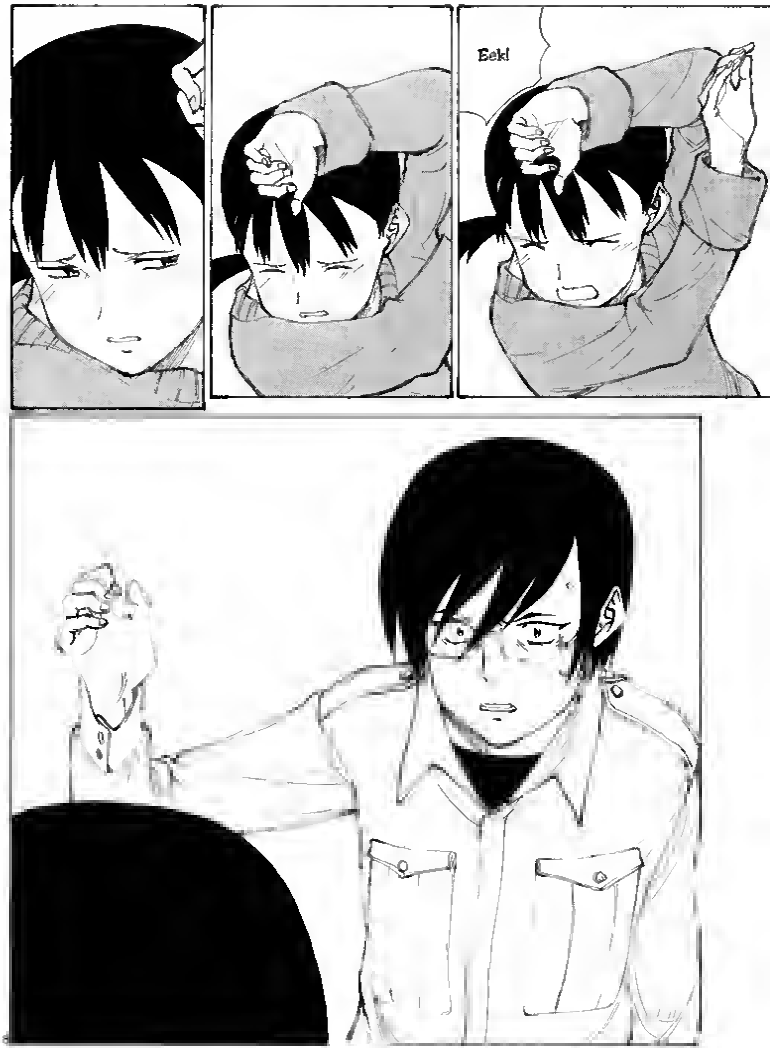

Why didn't you tell me you were in the contract?!

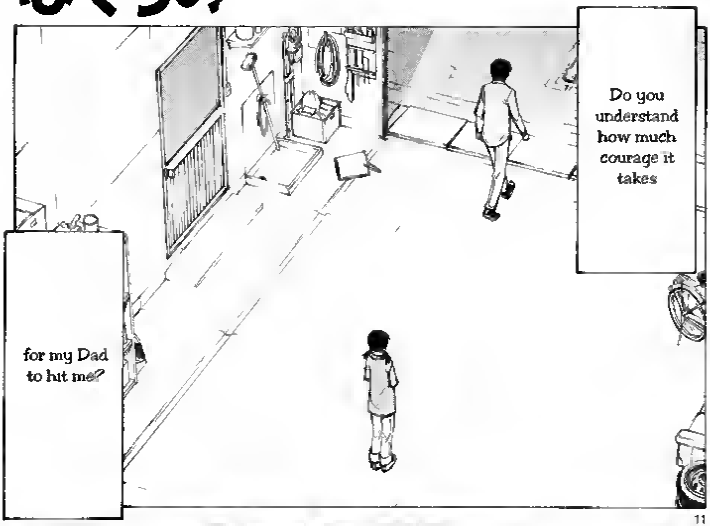
You bitch!!

Because..
If I did, it would mean you were all alone...

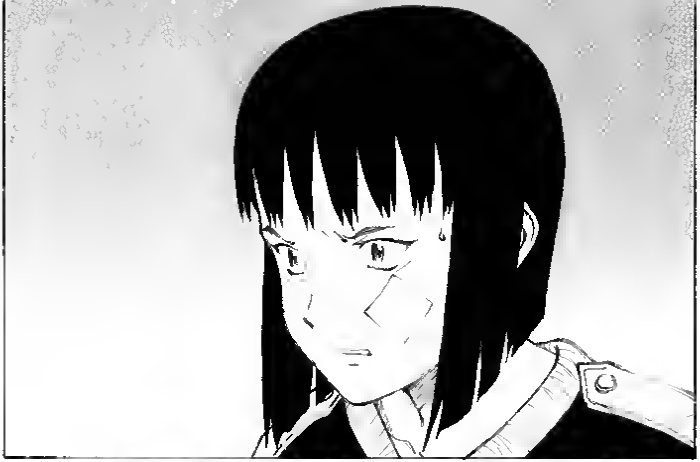

Eek!

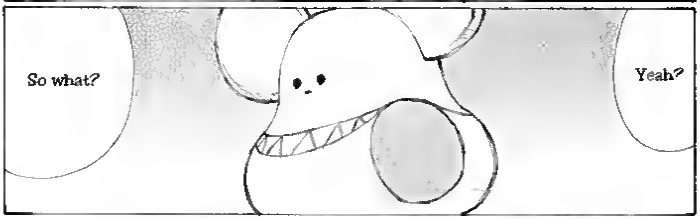
Know what?
Did you know?

Know what?!
10
Dammit!
That's why you can hit Kana without ever thinking twice
You're spoiled by the security of being related by blood

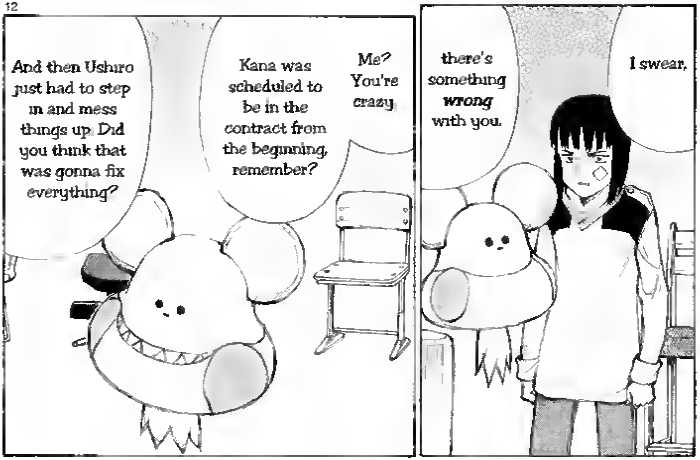

Do you understand how much courage it takes
for my Dad to hit me?

You made Kana enter the contract?!

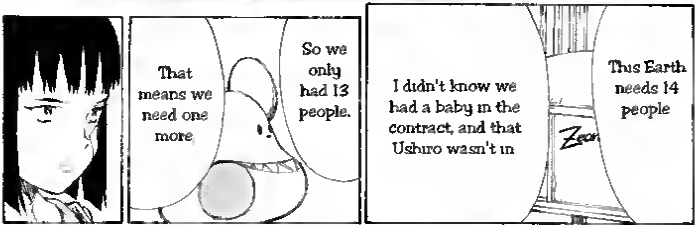



So what?
Yeah?

12

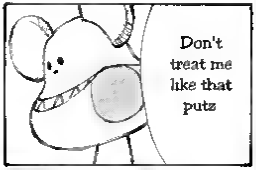

And then Ushiro just had to step in and mess things up. Did you think that was gonna fix everything?
Kana was scheduled to be in the contract from the beginning, remember?
Me? You're crazy.
there's something *wrong* with you.
I swear,

Are you gonna do that?
No. I'm the one who gets stuck with all the dirty jobs.
Who do you think's gonna have to pick out the last person?
Either way, you're still gonna need another person.

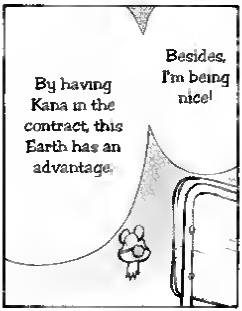

So we only had 13 people.
That means we need one more.
This Earth needs 14 people
I didn't know we had a baby in the contract, and that Ushiro wasn't in
Zzzz

13

Screw that.
You know I'm better than he is.
onto Ushiro?
Are you projecting me
What the hell's your problem?


Don't treat me like that putz

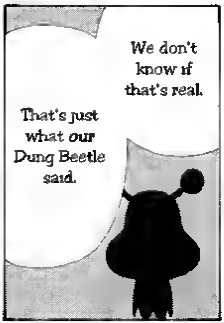
Don't call me that.
You shouldn't...
When we're together, you will address me as "big brother."

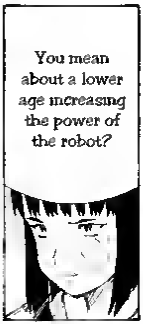

By having Kana in the contract, this Earth has an advantage.
Besides, I'm being nice!

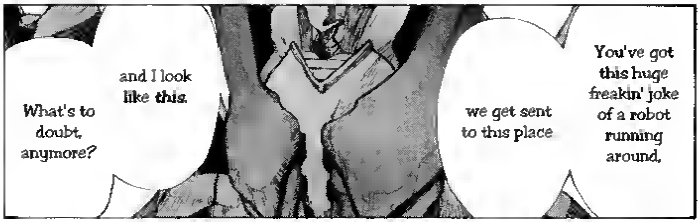
You should realize that, little sis.
At least I treat my sister with care.

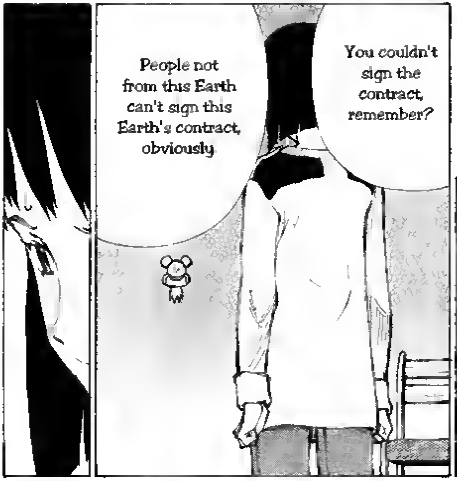
14

You gonna determine if every little thing is true or not? Why?
Yeah, but if you're gonna go down that road, that goes for everything.


That's just what our Dung Beetle said.
We don't know if that's real.


You mean about a lower age increasing the power of the robot?


What's to doubt, anymore?
and I look like this.
we get sent to this place
You've got this huge freakin' joke of a robot running around,


People not from this Earth can't sign this Earth's contract, obviously.
You couldn't sign the contract, remember?

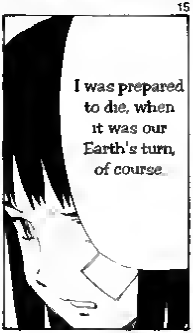
Mom and Dad are worried.
Just go back to our Earth, already.

You're not gonna help make up for anything.
There's nothing more you can do here.

15

Well, how very splendid of you.
All right, I'm sending you back.

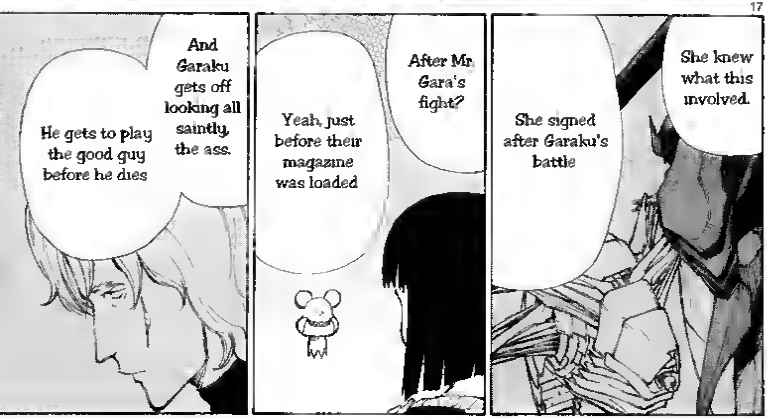
I wasn't like you. I didn't cheat.
We just had too many contractees. My turn never came.


I was prepared to die, when it was our Earth's turn, of course.

I've been with these kids all this time
I want to see it to the end with them.
I can't just leave you here by yourself
No
Damn.
16
Besides,
next is Kana, right?
She ain't as weak
as you think.

She's kept her unrelated brother at ease,
by letting him hit her
She's a freak, and that's the only way she can play family
But,
being able to bear yourself being hurt,
and being able to bear hurting another person,
are two different things.

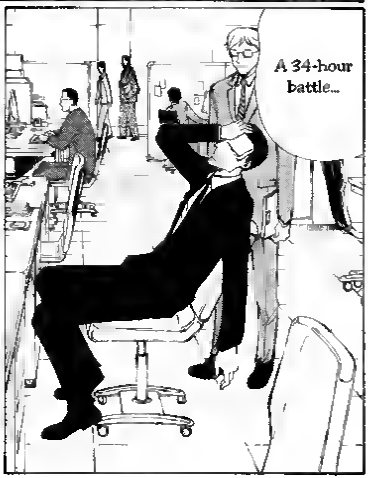
17


She knew what this involved.
She signed after Garaku's battle
After Mr. Gara's fight?
Yeah, just before their magazine was loaded
And Garaku gets off looking all saintly, the ass.
He gets to play the good guy before he dies

She knew there was some amount of danger involved.
'Course, I didn't tell her she was gonna die
Kana called for me because she wanted to sign
Oh, and just for the record,
Yeah.
She thought he was in the contract.
Why...
Because she couldn't leave Ushiro behind?
19
Pssh.
I don't think so.
You ain't dead.
Wow,
she's just like me.

You just be a good girl and pretend you're trying to rehabilitate me

What in the world are we doing anyway?


A 34-hour battle...

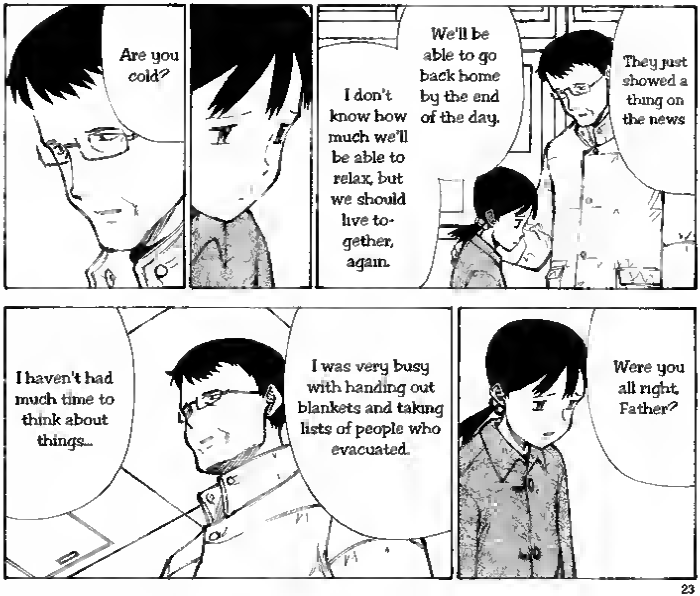
It wouldn't bring back the kids who have already died.
Or maybe not.
Normally he'd get a national funeral.
I have.
He'll take the remains
Have you called Yoshikawa's father?
Their families will be visited by the staff and the soldiers' commanding general.
are to be given two promotions and war hero status
When all the fighting is over, Captain Seki and the others who died in the line of duty
20
Napping
Where's Captain Tanaka?
She'll go to deliver the explanation in the morning
That won't work.
She's not stupid enough to go back home.
We don't even know if that's her house
We've sent four people to Ms. Machi's house.
We'll have her brought back as soon as we find her

This could be the hardest development for her, yet.

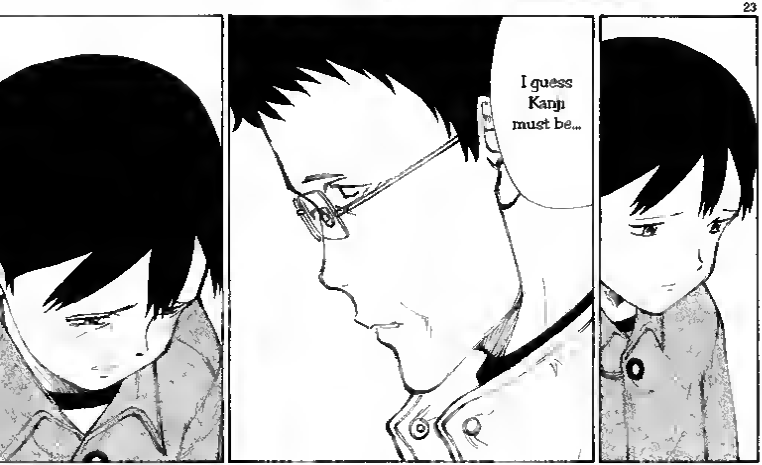
That Kana Ushiro
is the next pilot.

Father

22

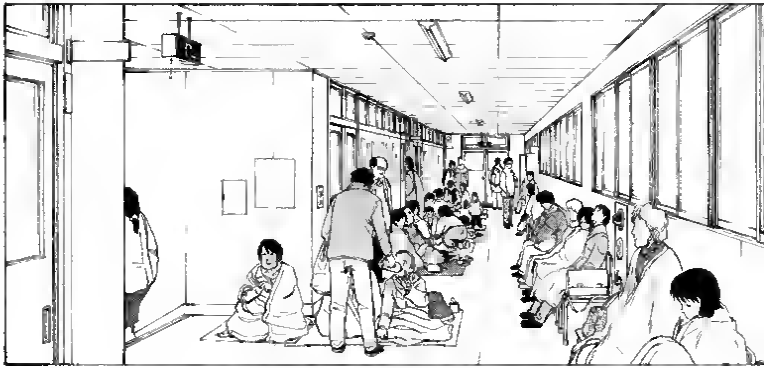

Are you cold?
I don't know how much we'll be able to relax, but we should live together, again.
We'll be able to go back home by the end of the day.
They just showed a thing on the news
I haven't had much time to think about things...
I was very busy with handing out blankets and taking lists of people who evacuated.
Were you all right, Father?

23


I guess Kanji must be...

That's hard...
Jun, next?
Is it.
24
I see...
I see...
So someone else
will have to suffer, again.

25
In a little bit,
I have to go meet with someone from the Defense Department.
They said it was a sudden matter
You can wait here, can't you?
I'll have to go to the city office



That was all today.

26

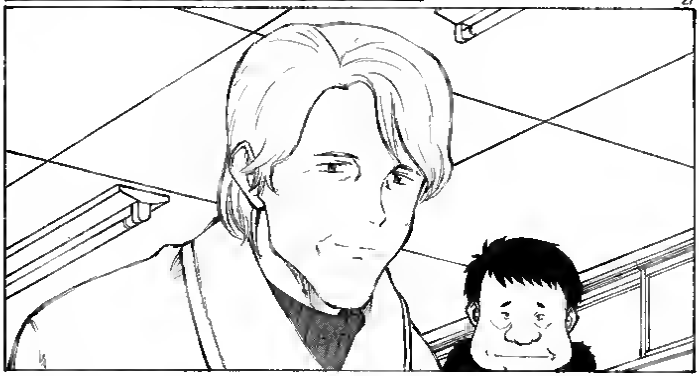
They were here, just... yesterday...
are gone...
Mr. Seki and Kanji

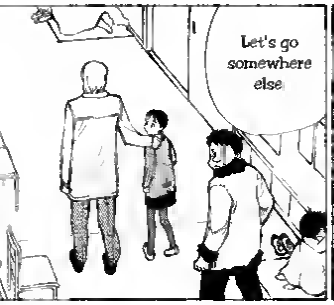
"not here"?
What does that mean,

Kana Ushuro?

Aha! There she is!

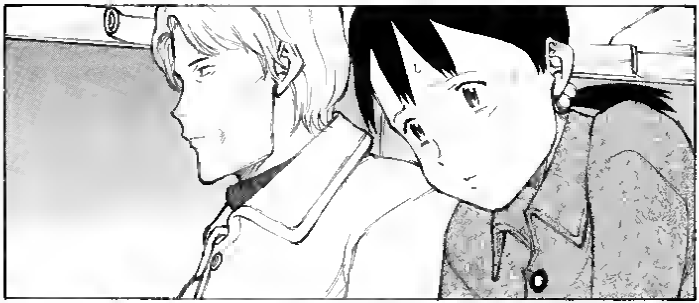
27




Let's go somewhere else

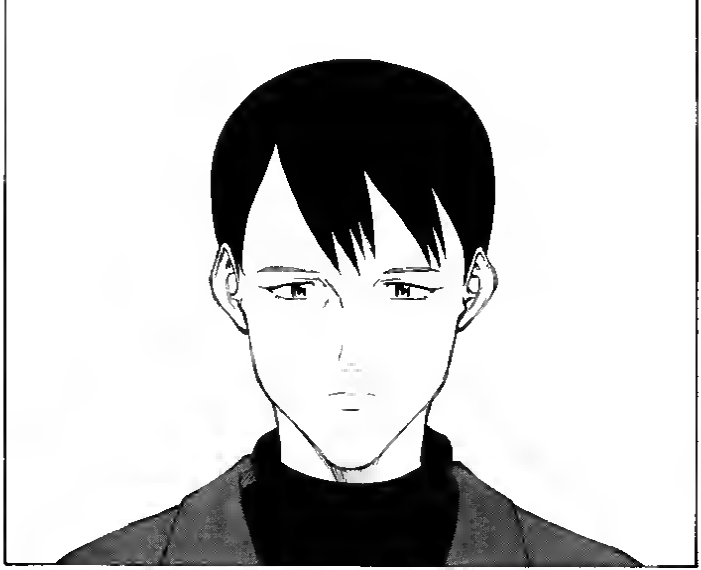
Huh...? You mean.
Is that Akira Tokosumi?

I found you.
Oh, good.



28
The person you were looking for.
Yes. We found her.
Umm...
Does this mean...

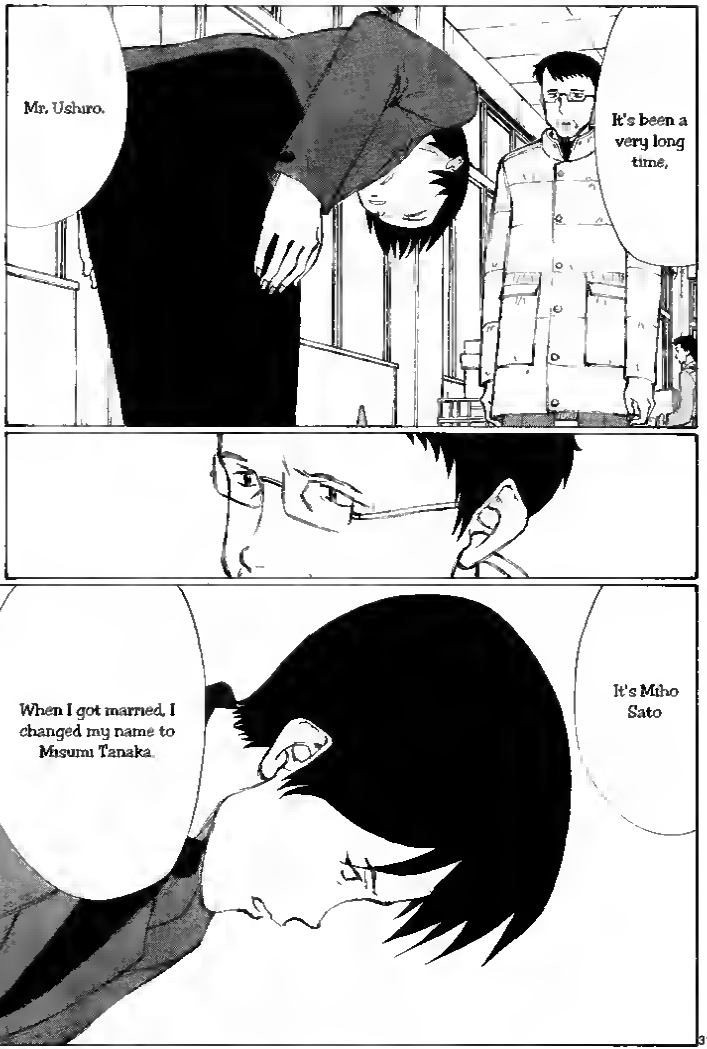
The real birth mother
of your brother, Jun.
And...
Is she still alive?
Of course
Where is she now?
Is she far away?
We're going to see her, right now.
She's supposed to be here at the city office
Huh?!



30

I'm sure it must have been tough, with the roads separated.
No, I ought to thank you for making the trip
No
Today's business has to come from me, and me alone.
You're not the usual person.

I'm sorry for being late.
Mrs. Tanaka, correct?


Mr. Ushuro.
It's been a very long time.
It's Miho Sato
When I got married, I changed my name to Misumi Tanaka.

It's been...
13 years.
Sato...?
You're...
I wasn't planning to ever see you again.
Sato...
No... abandoned him
Since I put Jun in your care...

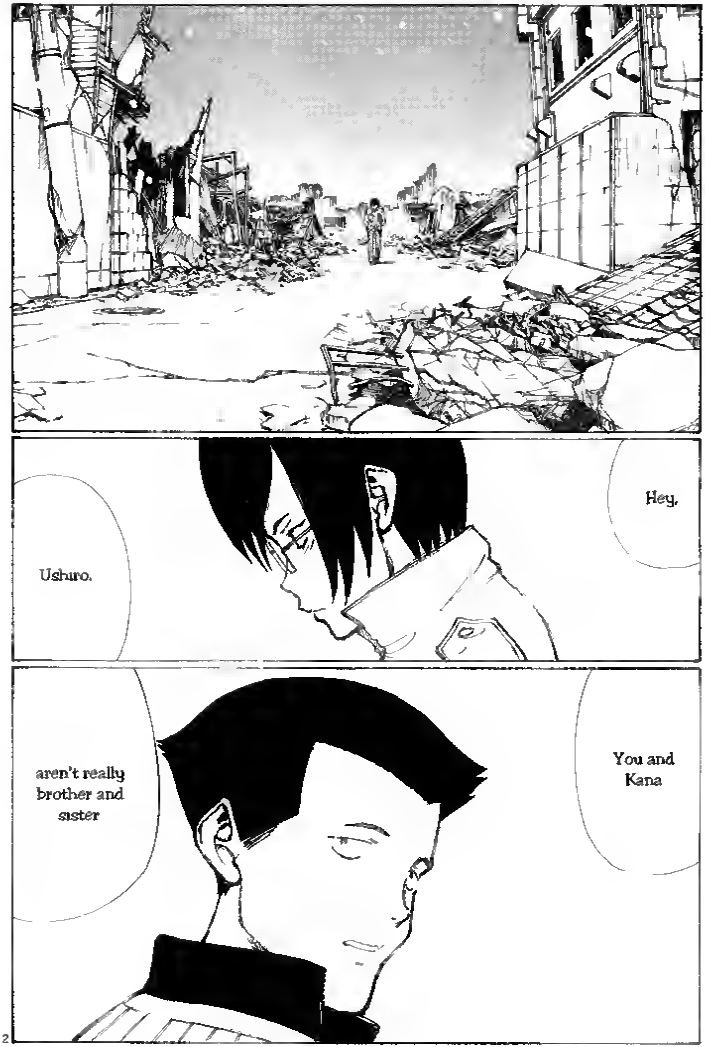
ぼくらの

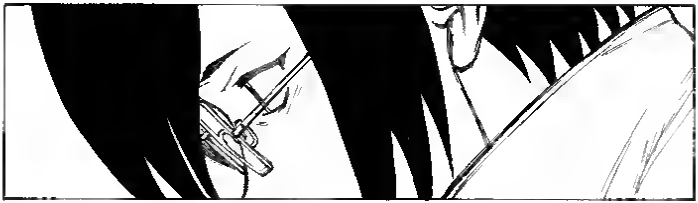
Chapter 48
Kana Ushiro (2)

A sister who accepts her brother and his violence.

But she is only in 4th grade.

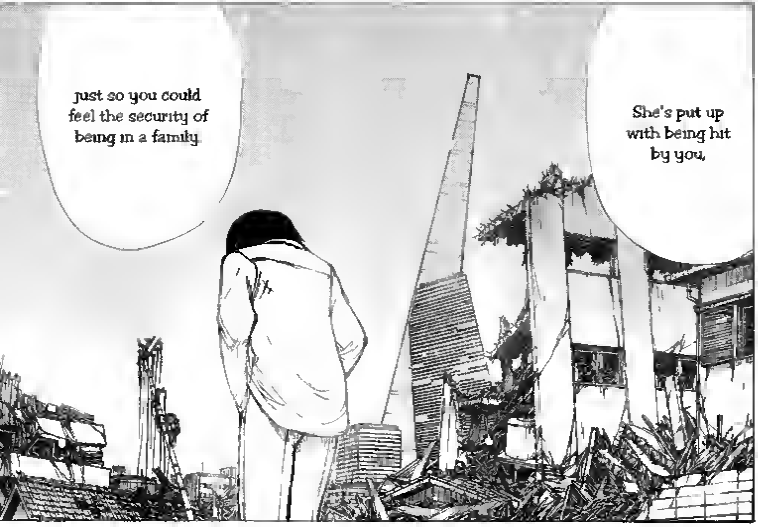
鬼頭莫宏
Kito Mohiro


Hey,
Ushuro.
You and Kana
aren't really brother and sister



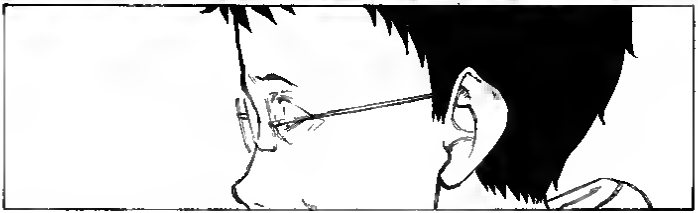
She's a good girl.

Kana's been trying to treat you like a real brother

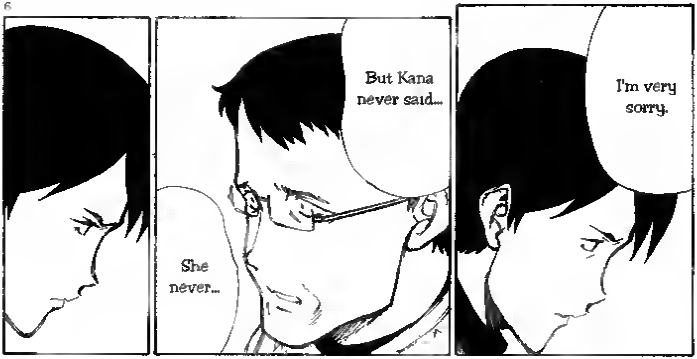

just so you could feel the security of being in a family.
She's put up with being hit by you.

I understand that it really isn't my place to show up like this, but...
Mr. Ushiro
Is Jun going to...
I only heard the news,
just a few days ago...
I'm the one who should be apologizing.
I just don't know what to say..
No.. no, wait a minute.
Where should I start?

I'm very, very sorry,
for what I'm about to report to you.
Then, you...
You must know, about Jun...
The next person who will pilot the robot and die...
...is Kana.

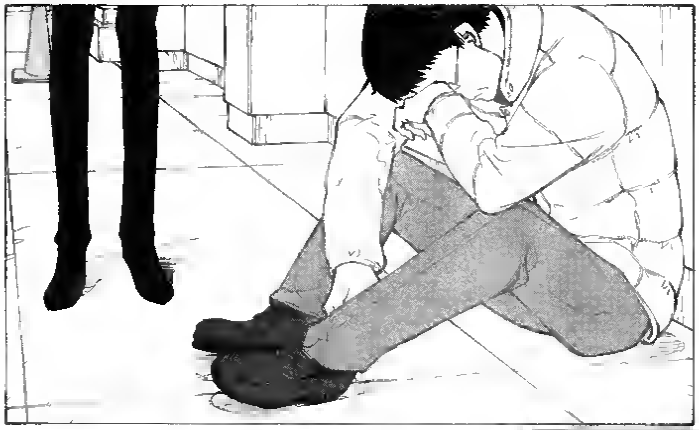


6



Yes.
Absolutely positive about this?
Are you...
Wait a minute...
I see...
I see.

No.
Isn't there any way that I can take her place?
Is there...
She's still only 10 years old.
You shouldn't have to apologize for it...
It isn't your fault that this happened.
I'm very sorry about this



I tried to love Jun, in my own way.
Maybe I didn't do it as well as I could have...
And then I hear that Jun might die.
I haven't thought about anything else for the past few days.
It just can't be Kana, not now...
Sir...
No...
No, this isn't right...

And that strain, it's been pressed onto Kana's back.
That's why I could never treat him like anything other than a student.
If I try to intrude into his heart, and he rejects me,
I just... I think things might be permanently ruined...
I'm just trying to avoid Jun.
I don't know how to respond to him
10
She's borne all the things I was too afraid to bear.
She's such a good girl.
It's Kana...
So...

why...?
Then,

Just go.
I'm sure... you're very busy
12
Sir,
go back to Kana, please
I can't bear to see her right now...
Do you mind if I sit with you?

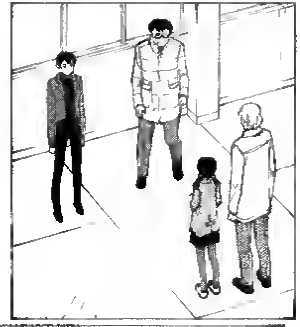
How should I treat Kana, now?
I think that the way you always have is the best answer
It's not truly my place to say,
but I hope you will spend as much time as you can with Kana
Is that what you've done...
With Jun?
Yes,
or so I've tried.
I may not have the right to act as Jun's mother,
but I do believe that I have a duty to see him through to his death.
I think that I have acted accordingly

That you will not tell Jun about me.
I hope...
I realize this is a very selfish thing to say,
but I have a request all the same
And... how did you find out about Jun?
I just can't come out and act like a mother to him.
Yes.
I requested it.
And was it your desire to come here?
I learned the truth when I visited the relations office after the incident.
The pilot who died in the 1st Special Disaster was a member of my regiment.

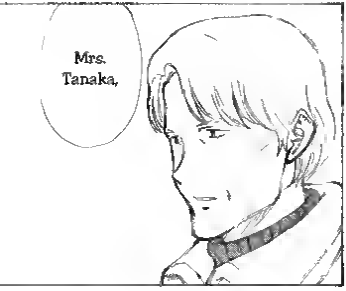
You've really gotten much stronger
Here I am, still weak as ever

キュン
Let's split up.
I hope we can find her without too much trouble.
Mrs. Tanaka?
and...
Dad...

Let's go.



Kana...


Mrs. Tanaka,

I think you should tell her
the truth.
Huh?

You were fooling me all this time
I'm sorry
I want you to tell my brother
From your own mouth.
19
I abandoned him, many years ago
Do you see why I can't be allowed to just step in and act like his mother?
Besides,
I'm going to die soon, too.
But still, I think...
That means he'll need you even more. He's going to be left behind after all of this.

You decided to get involved with Zearth, and sign the contract,
because you thought that he was contracted, right?

If you abandoned him, why did you do that?
Well...
I wasn't doing it as his mother. It was because I wanted to help him...
But that goes for all of the children, not just him...
Mrs Tanaka!

If you won't tell him, I will.
But I want you to do it.

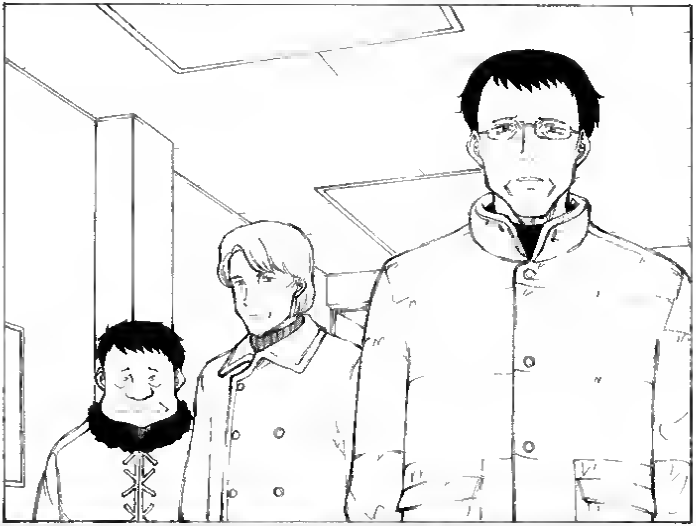
Yes...
But, you see...
Then...
Of course
There shouldn't be a problem.
Does the man you're married to now...
Know about Jun?
21
You're running
from him.
Even though
I never did.

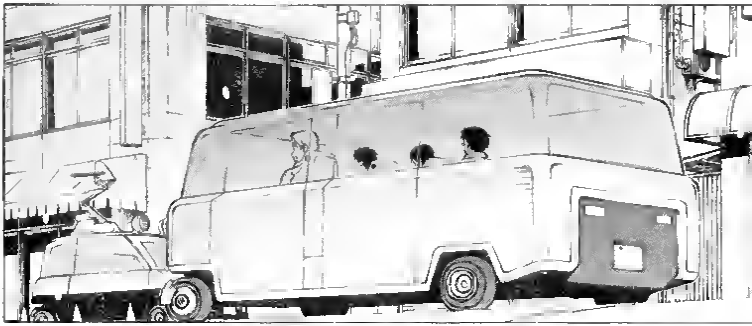
I don't even have the right to bear my responsibility as a mother
I left him behind,
13 years ago.
Mrs. Tanaka,
My mom died when she gave birth to me.
I only know her through pictures and videos.

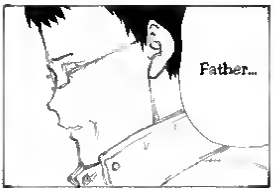
No matter what I do,
I can never meet her.
But...

My brother, Jun,
still can.
This isn't just for his sake.
It's for my own, too.

of a mother.
Please give me memories
I need time to think.
I'm sorry



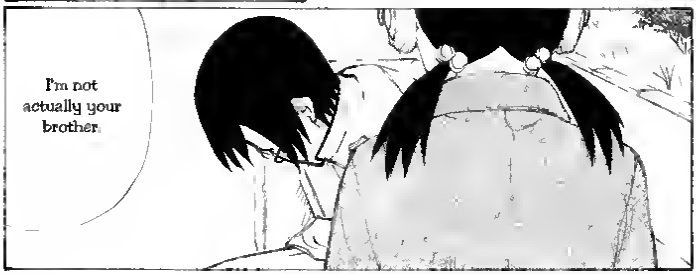



Father...

I'm sorry.

Big Brother.

Let's go back to Father.

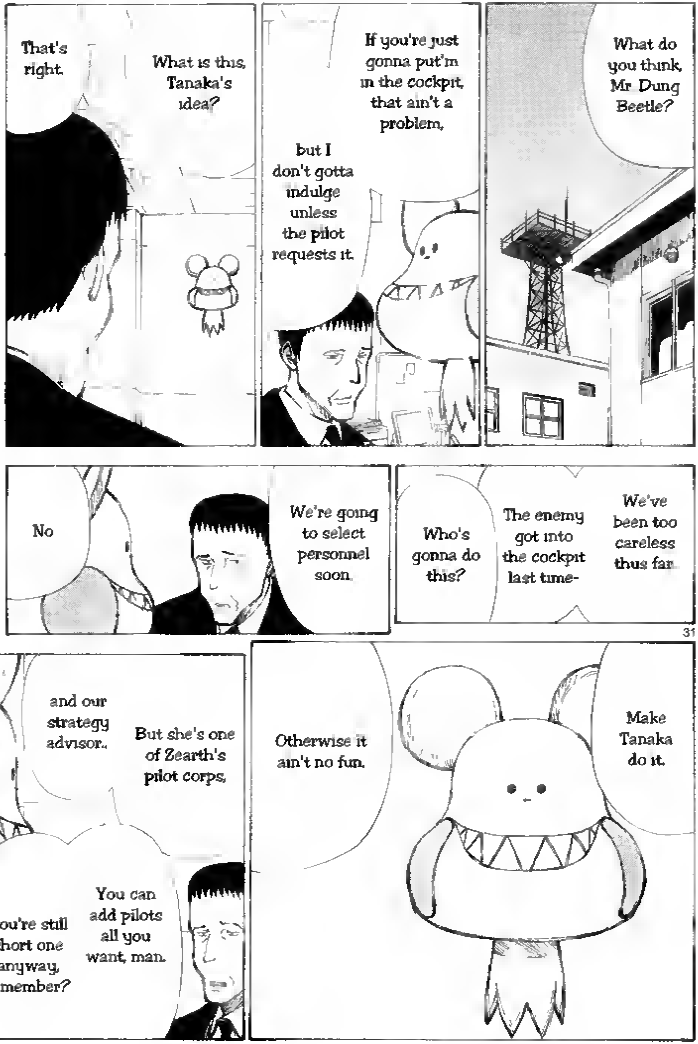

I'm not actually your brother.

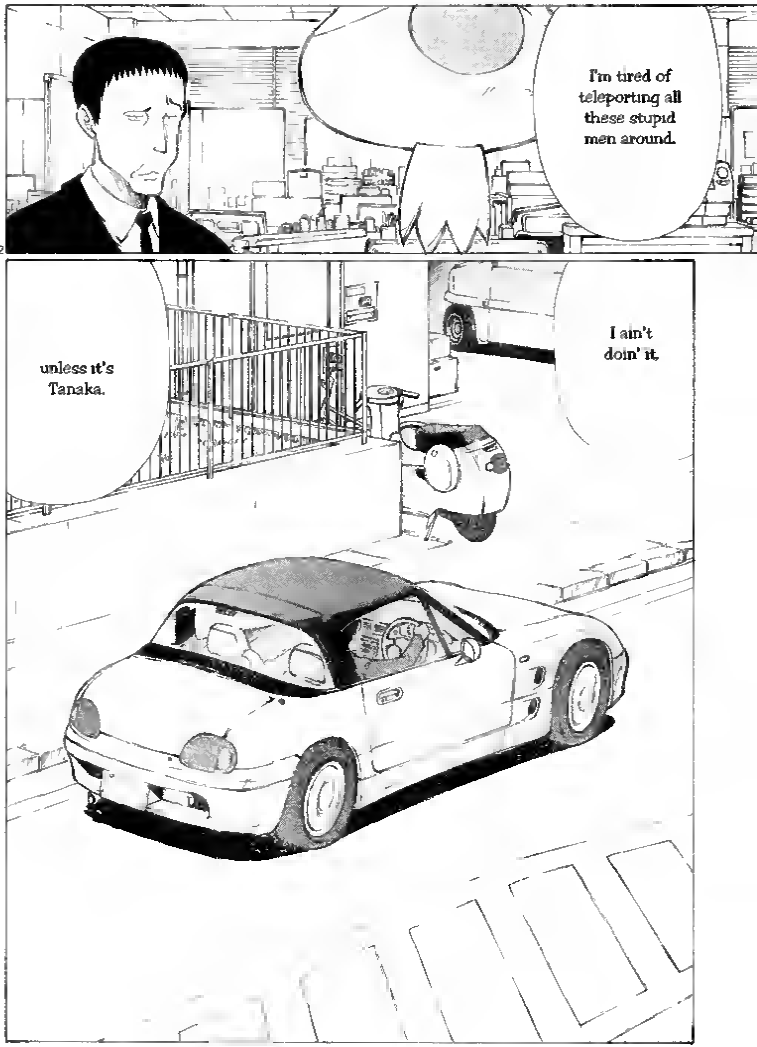
for the short time until my battle.
I think you could still be,

You were,
for 10 years.

do you want to meet your real mother?
Big Brother,
I think your mom...
is probably...
still alive...
No
Not interested.

I hope you see her.
Well,
I'll fight for
That's what


That's right.
What is this, Tanaka's idea?
If you're just gonna put'm in the cockpit, that ain't a problem,
but I don't gotta indulge unless the pilot requests it.
What do you think, Mr. Dung Beetle?
No
We're going to select personnel soon.
Who's gonna do this?
The enemy got into the cockpit last time-
We've been too careless thus far.
and our strategy advisor.
But she's one of Zearth's pilot corps.
You're still short one anyway, remember?
You can add pilots all you want, man.
Otherwise it ain't no fun.
Make Tanaka do it.


I'm tired of teleporting all these stupid men around.
I ain't doin' it,
unless it's Tanaka.

ぼくらの

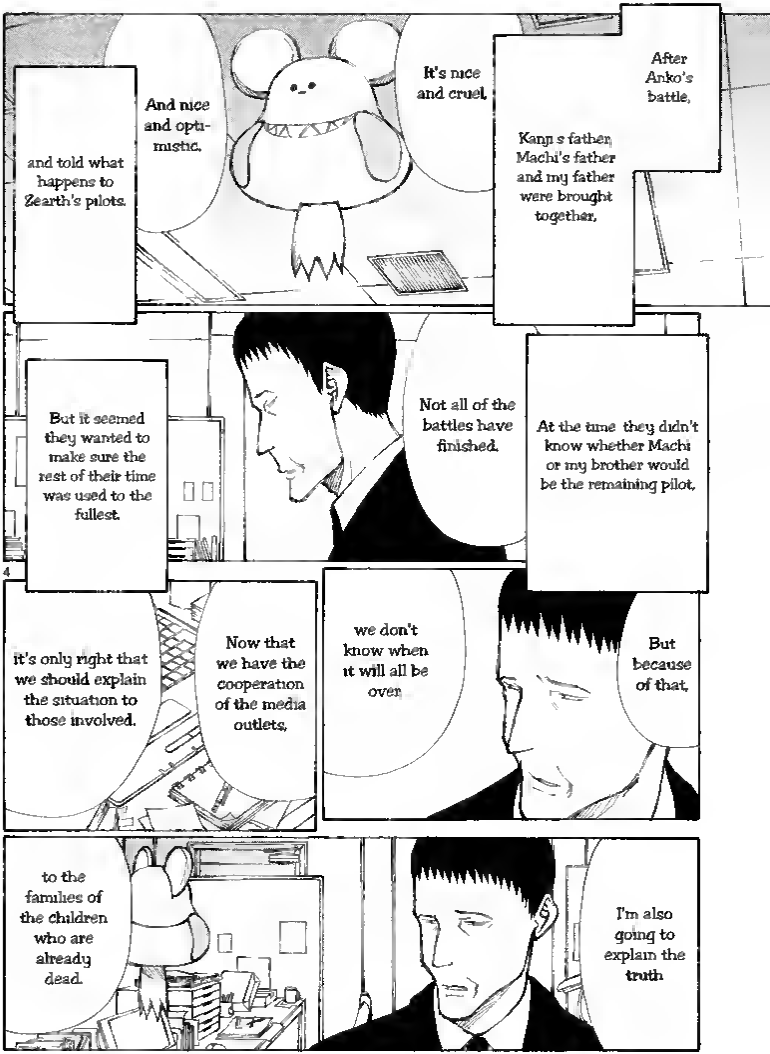
Chapter 48
Kana Ushiro (3)

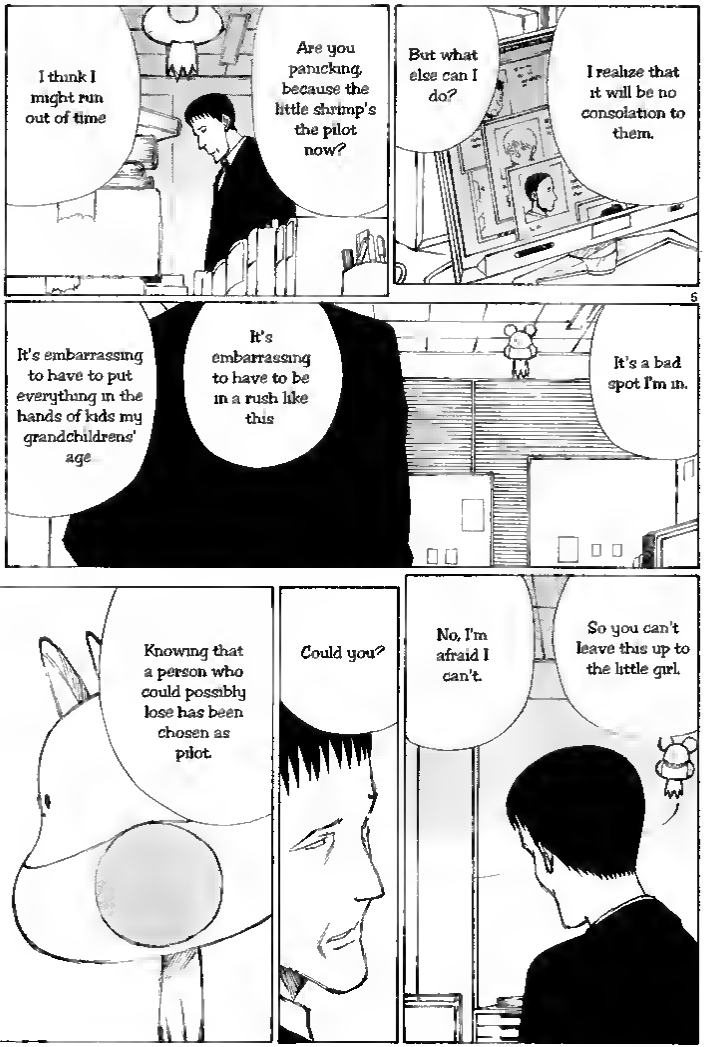
The girl who bore her brother all her life must now bear the fate of the world.

鬼頭莫宏
Kito Mohiro

Right after the end of Kanji's battle,
Machu went missing
They say she might be dead!
They say she's missing!
God damn it all!!
Sniff...

Yoko!
Yoko!
Yokoooo!
Buy me some more!!
Yes sir!!
Hey! You there!!
Yes sir!!
I'm all out of sake!!
Well, if you'd just stop *drinking* for a little while...


After Anko's battle,
Kanji's father, Machi's father and my father were brought together,
It's nice and cruel,
And nice and optimistic,
and told what happens to Zearth's pilots.
Not all of the battles have finished.
At the time they didn't know whether Machi or my brother would be the remaining pilot.
But it seemed they wanted to make sure the rest of their time was used to the fullest.
But because of that,
we don't know when it will all be over.
Now that we have the cooperation of the media outlets,
it's only right that we should explain the situation to those involved.
I'm also going to explain the truth
to the families of the children who are already dead.


I think I might run out of time
Are you panicking, because the little shrimp's the pilot now?
But what else can I do?
I realize that it will be no consolation to them.
It's embarrassing to have to put everything in the hands of kids my grandchildrens' age
It's embarrassing to have to be in a rush like this
It's a bad spot I'm in.
Knowing that a person who could possibly lose has been chosen as pilot
Could you?
No, I'm afraid I can't.
So you can't leave this up to the little girl.

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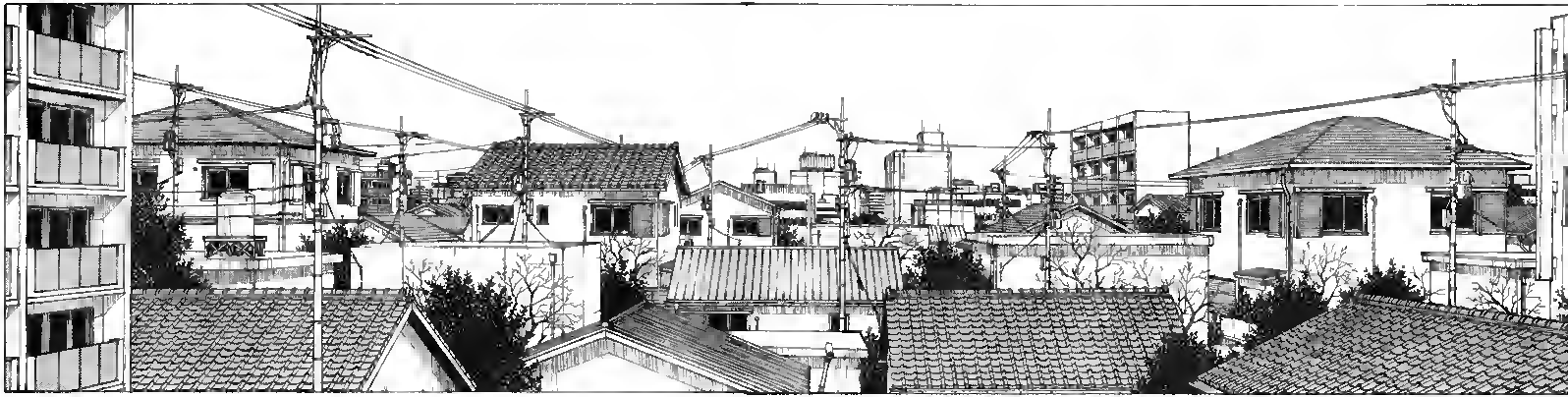
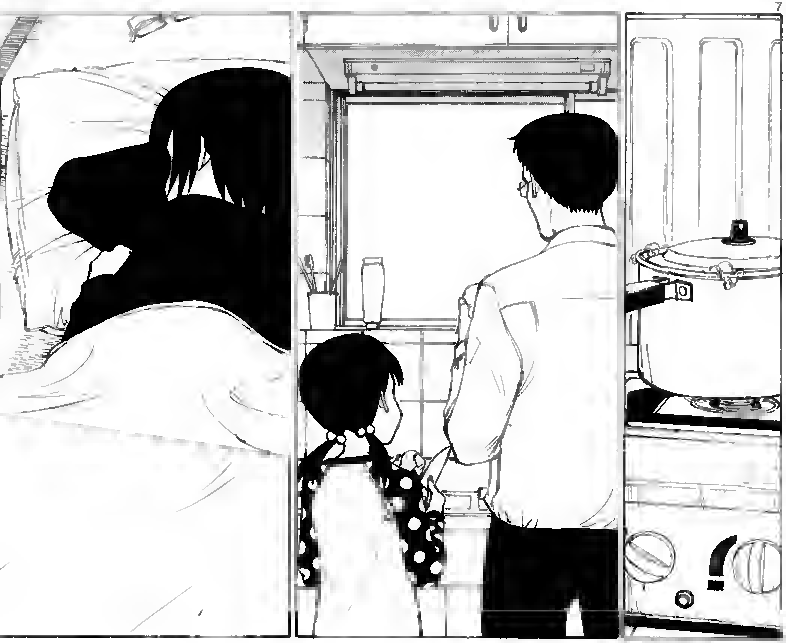
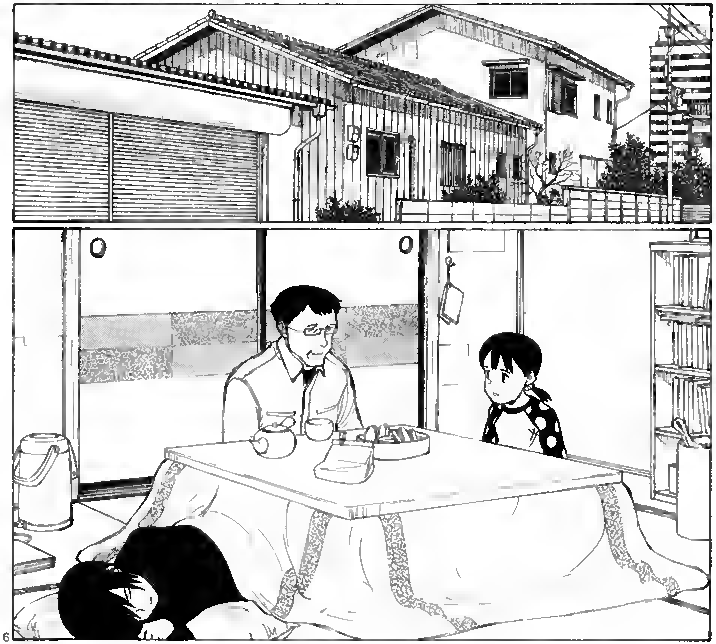
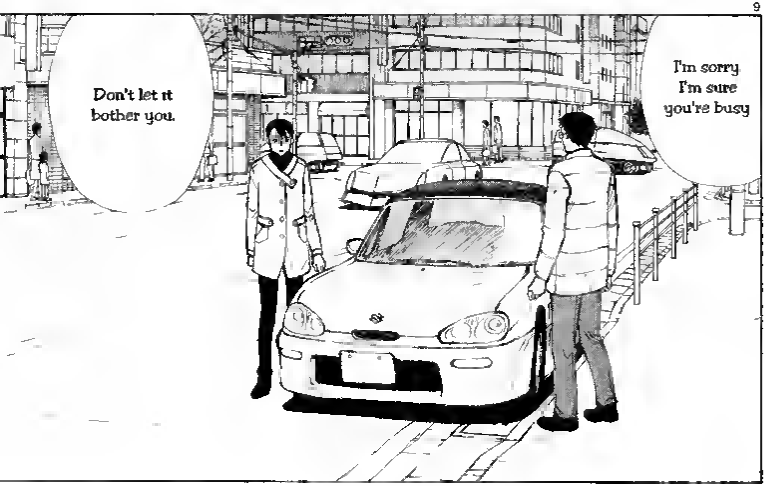






You don't need to worry
Hmm?
Dad?
a child dies of starvation.
Every two seconds,
somewhere in the world,
8
I hope those people will use their imagination
to think of all the children who don't get special deaths
So if my death
looks like a sad story to someone else,
That's a lot of horrible stories.
That means every two seconds, there is a story
where the main character dies

Dad,
you don't have to worry about me
I'll
be fine

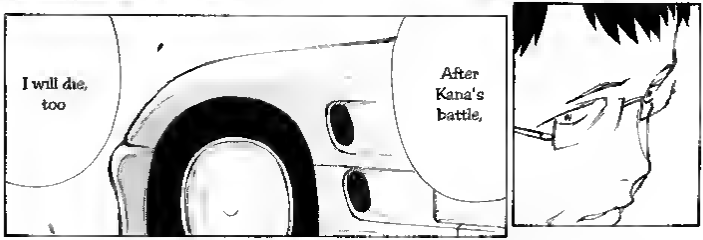

I'm sorry I'm sure you're busy
Don't let it bother you.

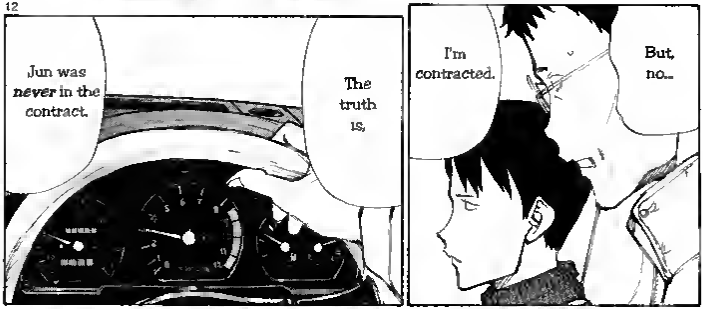
I want you to grant her wish.
I have a request, as Kana's father
I'll be straight.
Yes.
Can we talk as we're driving?
to tell Jun that you are his mother.
I want you
that Jun was adopted?
How did Kana know

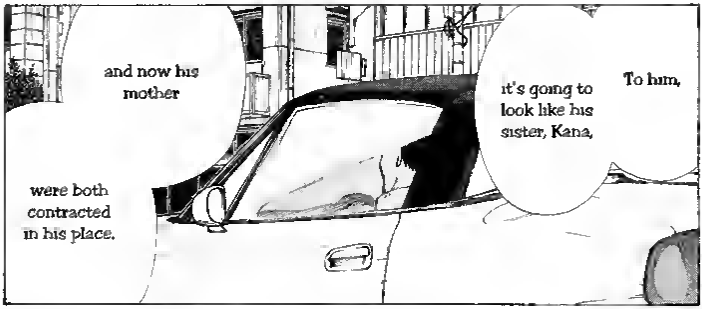
Jun's real mother is somewhere else.
But ignoring my side of it,
That she stole her from me and Jun.
Kana's always thought that she killed her mother.
I had to tell her.
Of course,
because of that, she's now carrying a different burden,
but that's my fault.
You see?
I had to tell her. I had to save Kana from her pain

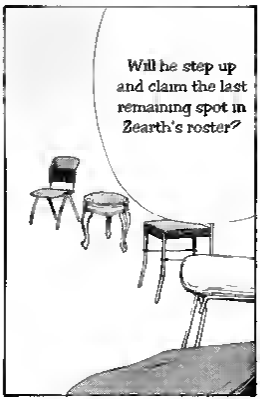
What's the reason?
Why not?
I'm afraid I just can't do that.
I'm so sorry.
Mr. Ushiro...

Because I'm
also in the contract.


After Kana's battle,
I will die, too


But, no...
I'm contracted.
The truth is,
Jun was *never* in the contract.


and now his mother
were both contracted in his place.
To him, it's going to look like his sister, Kana,

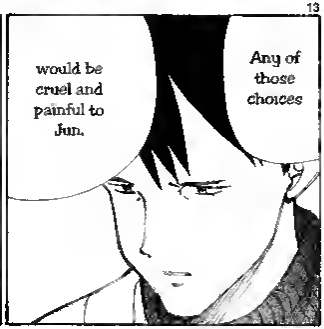

Will he step up and claim the last remaining spot in Zearth's roster?

How will he live after this?
Will he be able to cope?

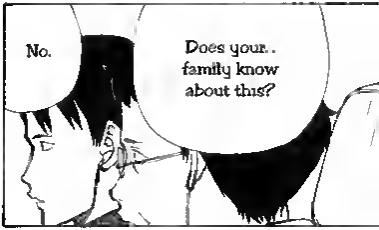
What will Jun do if he finds out?

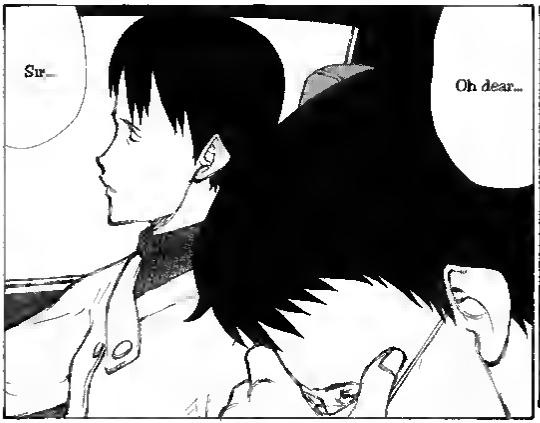
I still haven't been able to come up with a calm decision for this problem.

I cannot tell him.
So you see,

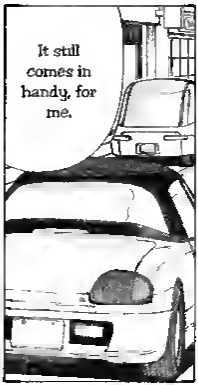

would be cruel and painful to Jun.
Any of those choices

They know what happens to soldiers.
But they'll be able to cope, after my time comes

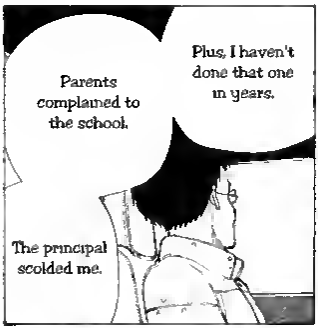

No.
Does your.. family know about this?

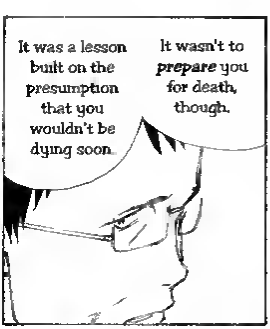

Sir...
Oh dear...

about death.
That lecture you gave

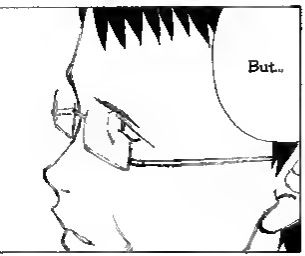

It still comes in handy, for me.

That day,
the next day,
a week later, a month,
a year, ten years.
You told us to imagine we died today
And we had to write about how we imagined our family and friends would feel, over time

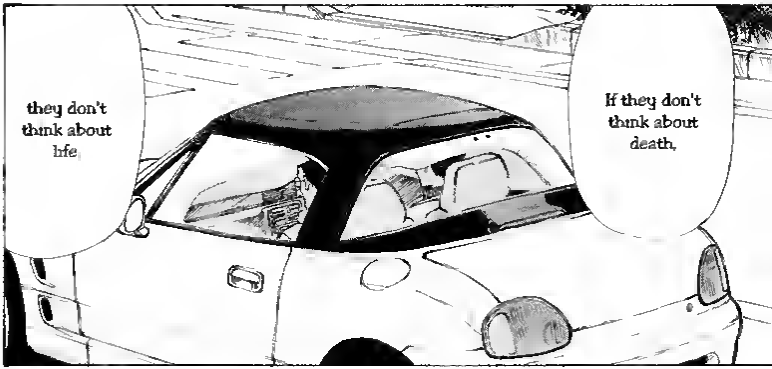

Parents complained to the school.
Plus, I haven't done that one in years.
The principal scolded me.

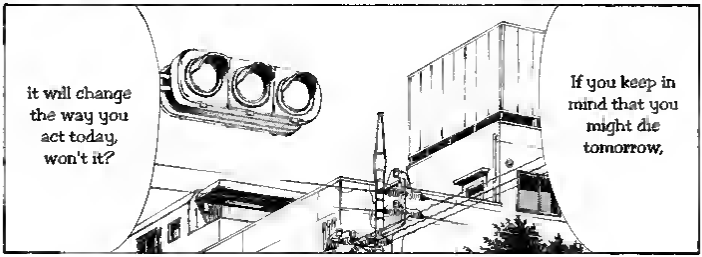

It was a lesson built on the presumption that you wouldn't be dying soon.
It wasn't to *prepare* you for death, though.

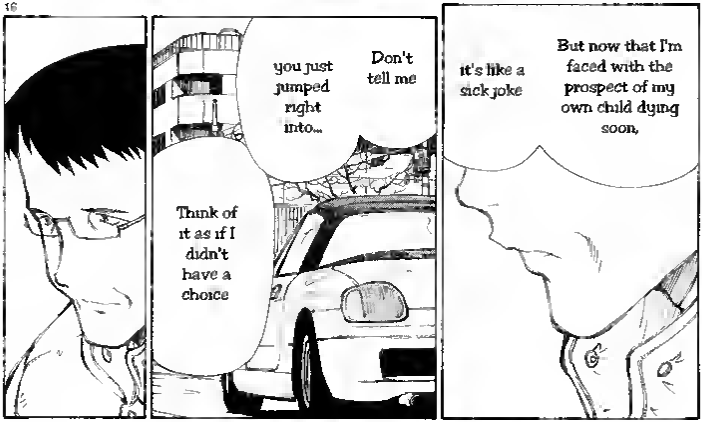
It was a fascinating lesson.


But...

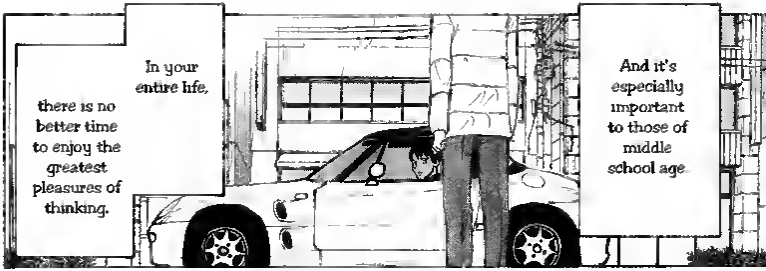
Or else it's too frightening for them to face.
Most students have never thought about their own death.

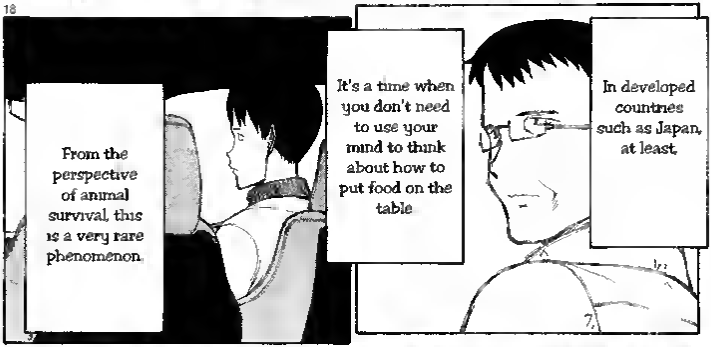

they don't think about life
If they don't think about death,

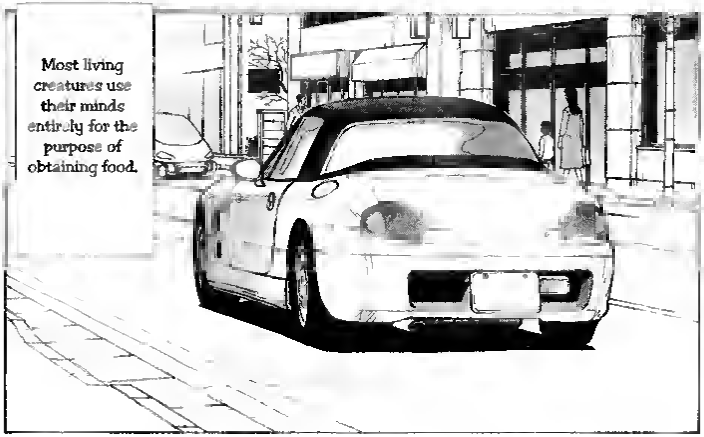

it will change the way you act today, won't it?
If you keep in mind that you might die tomorrow,

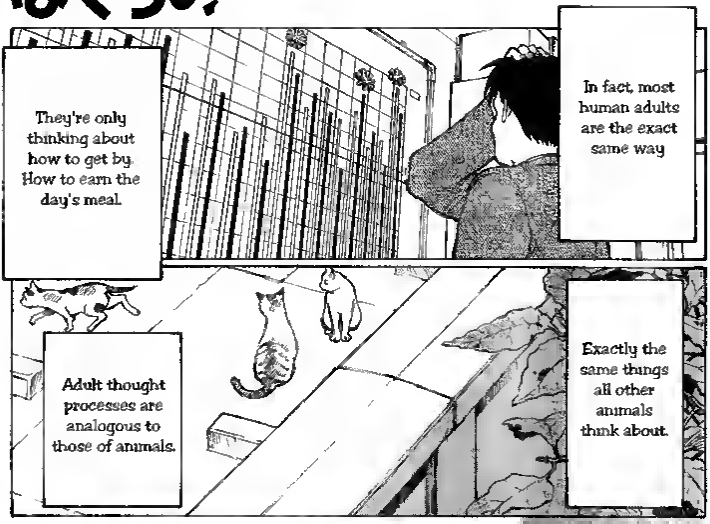

you just jumped right into...
Don't tell me
Think of it as if I didn't have a choice
it's like a sick joke
But now that I'm faced with the prospect of my own child dying soon,

Normally I'd think it best to tell Jun the truth,
and let him think about it on his own...
It reminded me of your favorite thing to say.
"Think about it."
It is the greatest luxury that mankind has been given.


In your entire life, there is no better time to enjoy the greatest pleasures of thinking.
And it's especially important to those of middle school age.

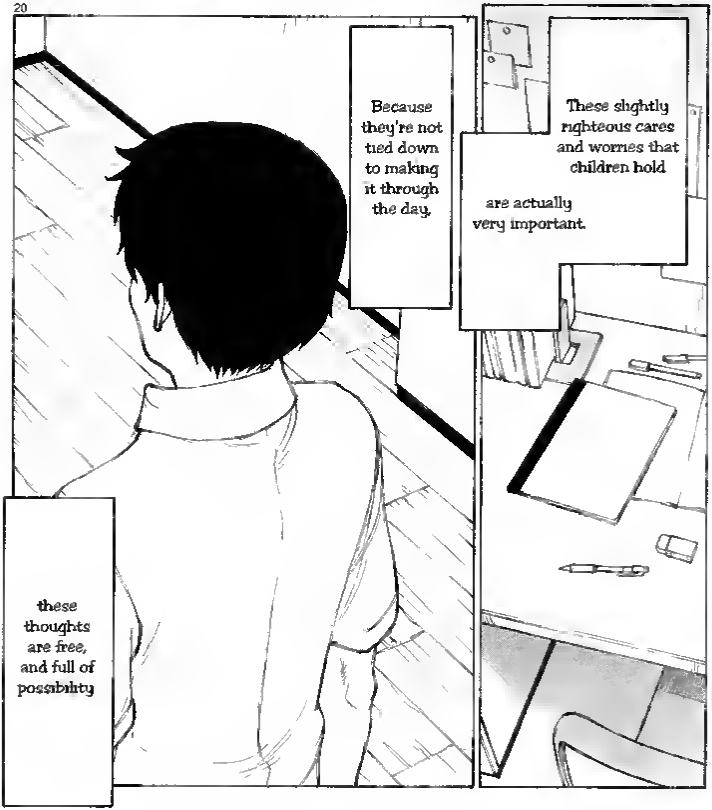

From the perspective of animal survival, this is a very rare phenomenon.
It's a time when you don't need to use your mind to think about how to put food on the table.
In developed countries such as Japan, at least.

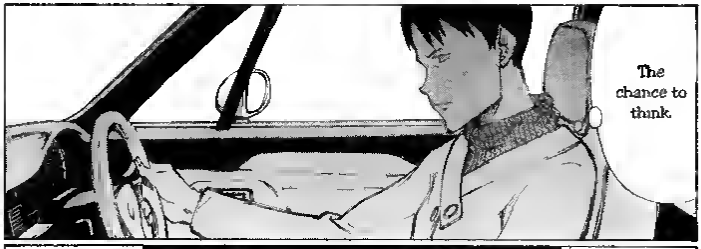

Most living creatures use their minds entirely for the purpose of obtaining food.


They're only thinking about how to get by. How to earn the day's meal.
In fact, most human adults are the exact same way
Adult thought processes are analogous to those of animals.
Exactly the same things all other animals think about.

A time for stupid things.
A time when you're free to worry about things that have nothing to do with survival.
But not during the childhood years.

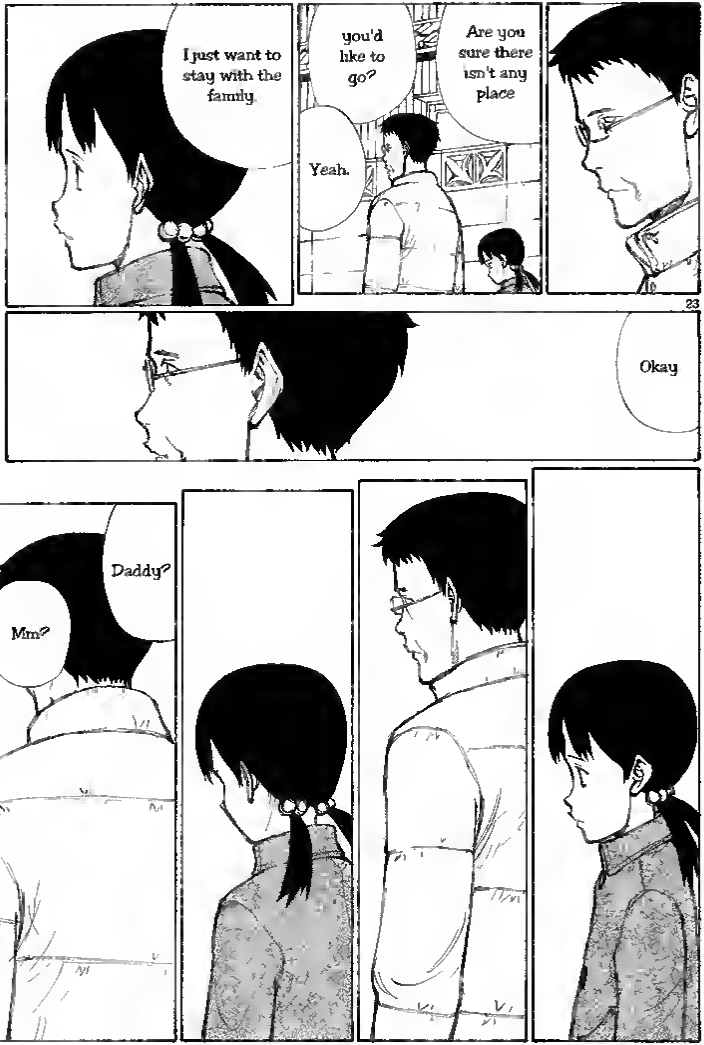
It's just an excuse as to why they have abandoned the ability to think.
But that's not a real answer.
Naive thoughts and worries that most adults would answer by saying they have little to do with reality or working society


Because they're not tied down to making it through the day,
These slightly righteous cares and worries that children hold
are actually very important.
these thoughts are free, and full of possibility


The chance to think

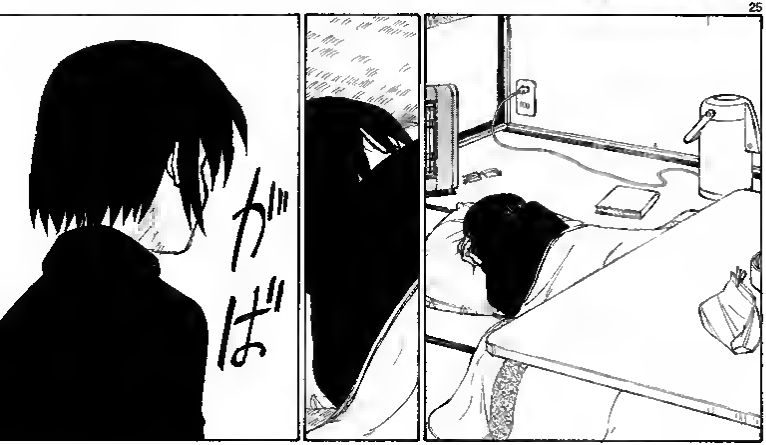
Should I be giving Jun that burden?

It's open again, isn't it?
Don't you have to go to school?
I wrote a letter to my friend.
But it'll be hard to explain everything.
Yeah.
Yes
What about you? Should you be at school?


I just want to stay with the family.
you'd like to go?
Are you sure there isn't any place
Yeah.
23
Okay
Daddy?
Mm?

No.
You shouldn't take too much time off and make them worried.
You got a lot of calls from your students, didn't you?
Yes.
Do you have a request?
I'll be cooking the dinner tonight.
24
Mild, then?
Yes, mild.
That's Jun's favorite
Curry.

I'm sorry
Daddy.
I can eat dinner tonight.
I don't think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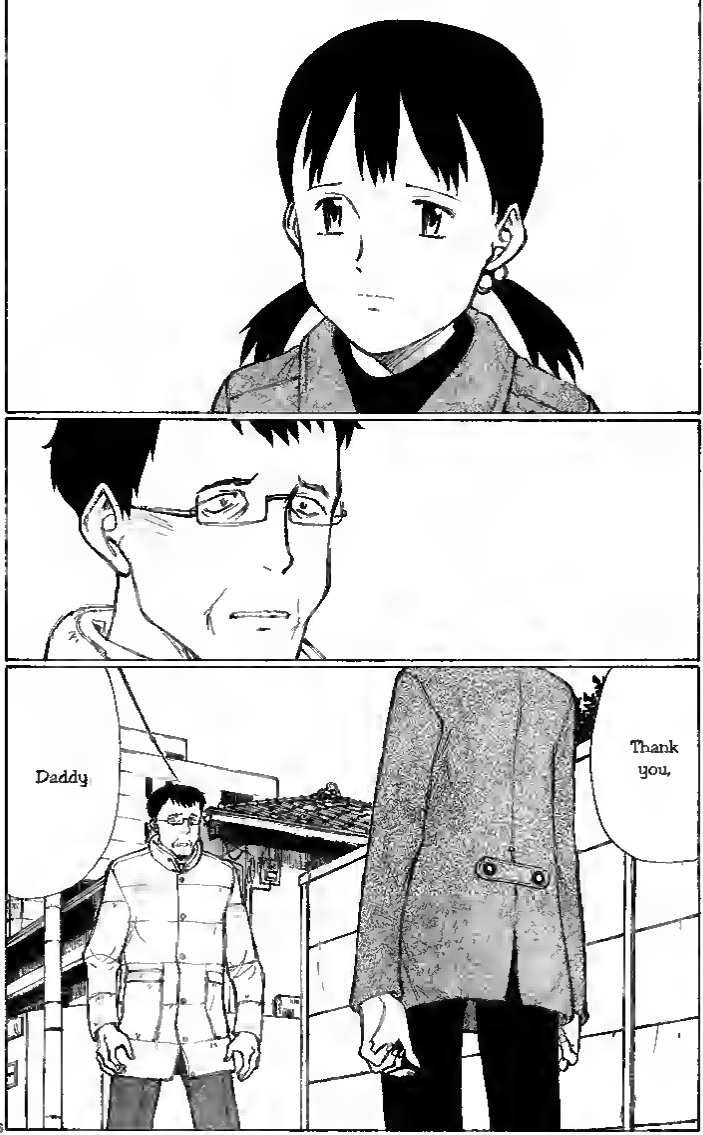
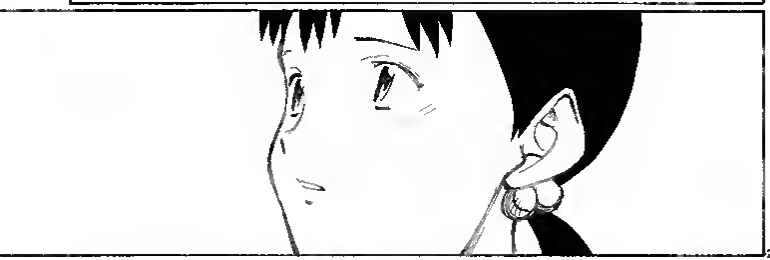
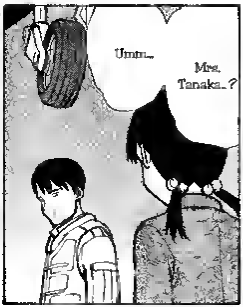

Daddy
Thank you,



145
IKKI COMIX 答えは3つ 全2● とんだばやし
答えが3つ!?ある液剤がついに劇行本に!!描き下ろし読切オマケ満載!! 大好評発売中!!

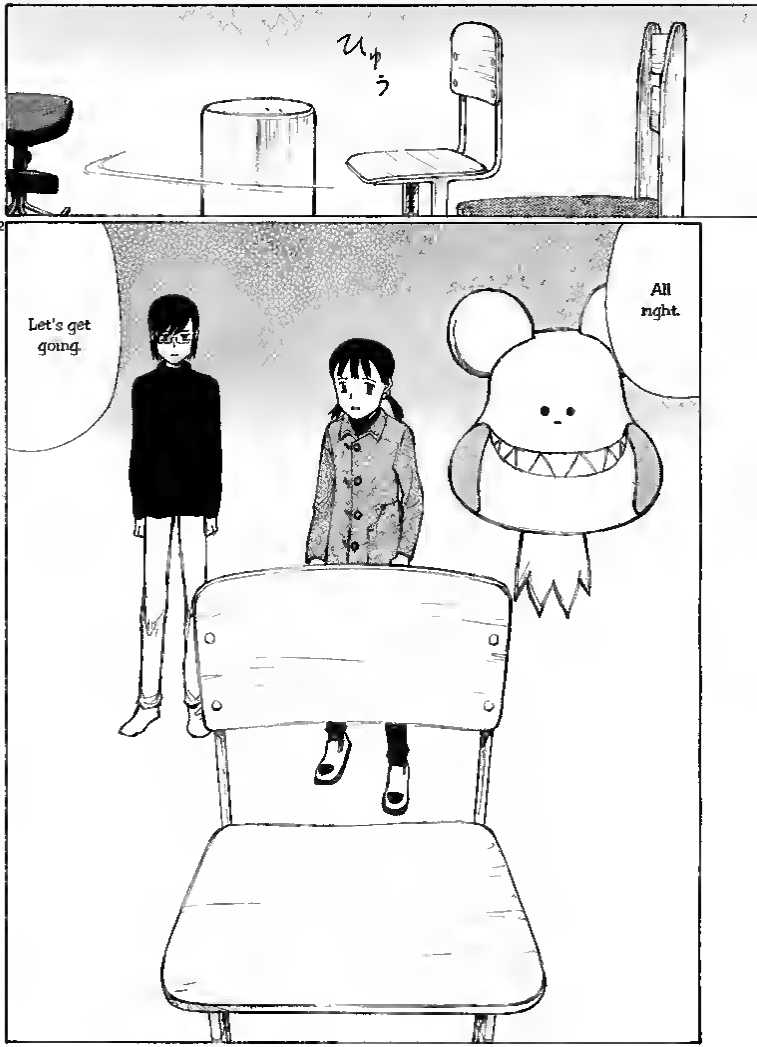
Just hang on until then.
We'll move it when the battle starts.


Umm...
Mrs. Tanaka...?

Look at this damn thing they brought in here

Good thing this one's an away battle
It means we won't have to let this little trick go to waste

Sister?
I do have to stick up for my dear little sister
If you have any comments for her, send them through me


ひゅう
32
Let's get going.
All night.

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Chapter 51
Kana Ushiro (4)

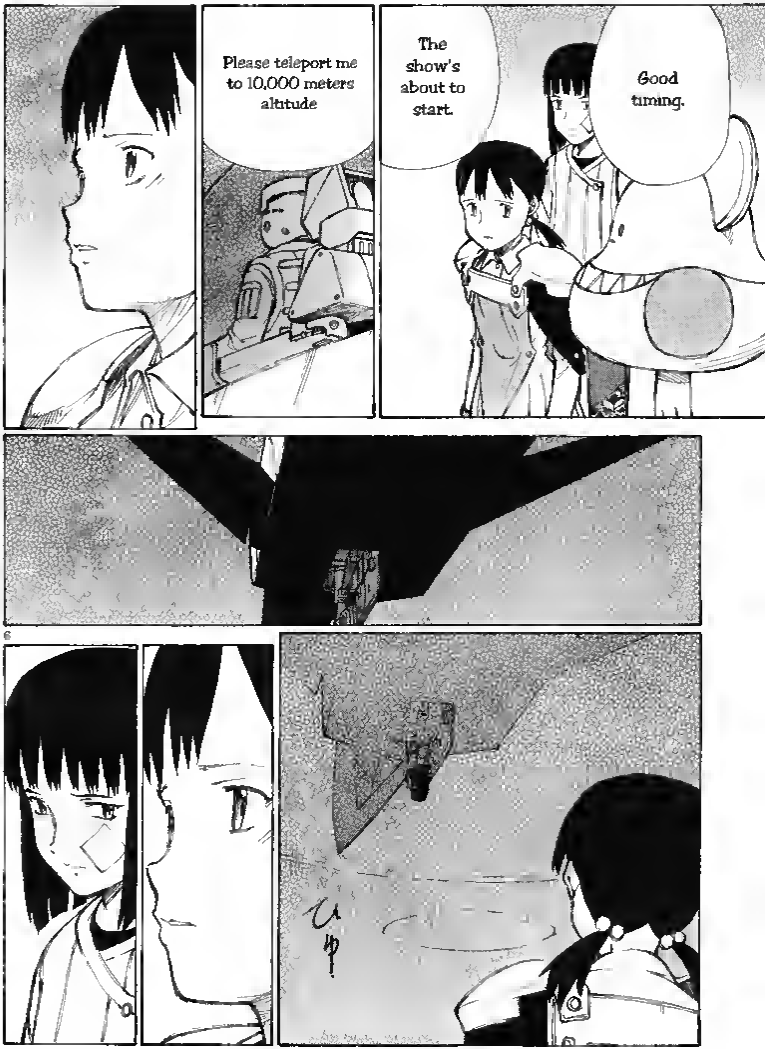
If there's one condition under which Zearth is at a massive disadvantage,
it is being unaware of the enemy's location.
Javelin, the previous enemy, used a battle strategy that betrayed our expectations
We had assumed that battle always took place within visible range.
Zearth has a vital weakness in its enemy-searching capability
With the army's support, this is currently its only weakness.

According to Dung Beetle, in away battles,
only that which can fit into the spherical, 20-meter-diameter cockpit can be taken along
Fortunately, one 18-meter Model 88 jet fighter fits neatly within those dimensions.
Of course, since I never took Model 96 conversion training,
The 88's the only thing I can use.
What happens when the battle is over is unclear,
but we can only assume that if the craft goes down, Dung Beetle will retrieve it.
3
What happens if it's outside the cockpit when we get taken back?
Well, it's just about time to get started.
Everybody prepared and ready?

What I said about my brother-!!
Mrs. Tanaka!!
4
Take me up, Dung Beetle.
I have pre-flight checks to do. We can talk later

Besides,
It's okay.
I'm really sorry...
Kana...
so I can win.
I need your help.

I'm all ready, too.
Put this on.
You can communicate with Captain Tanaka.
I'm all ready


Please teleport me to 10,000 meters altitude
The show's about to start.
Good timing.

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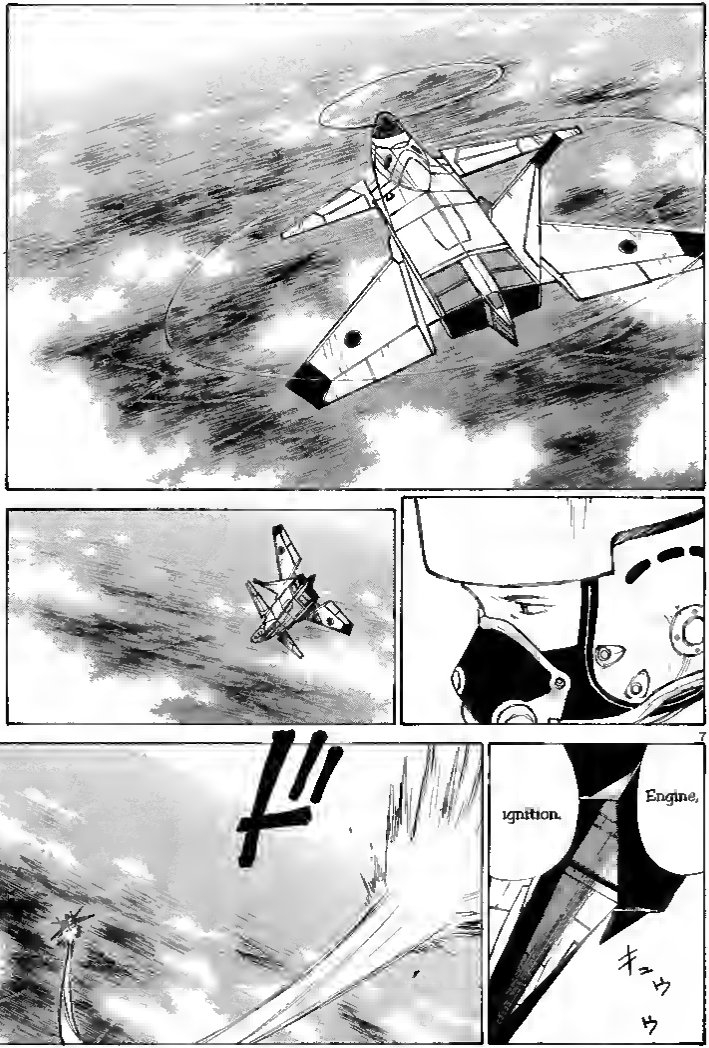
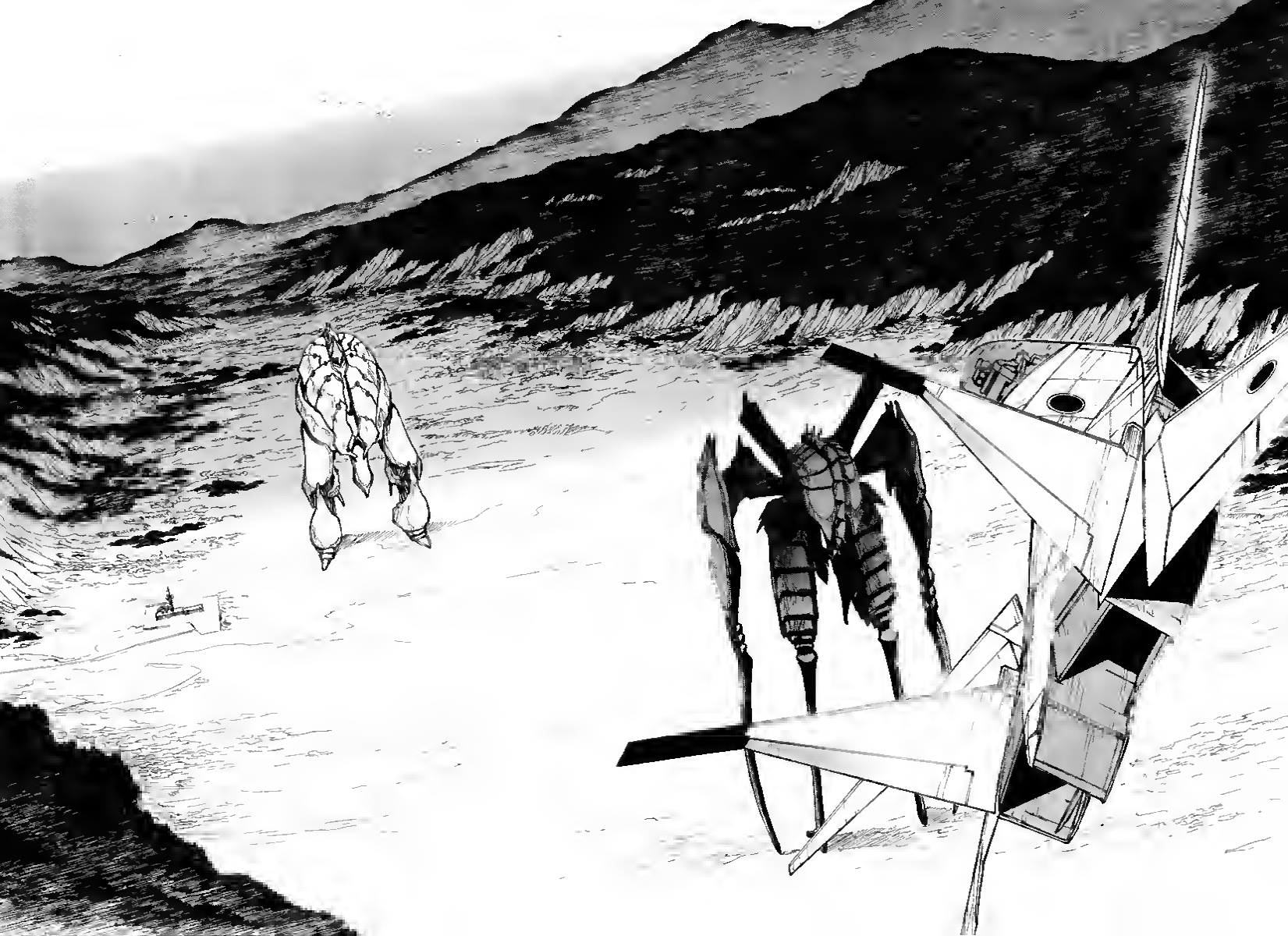
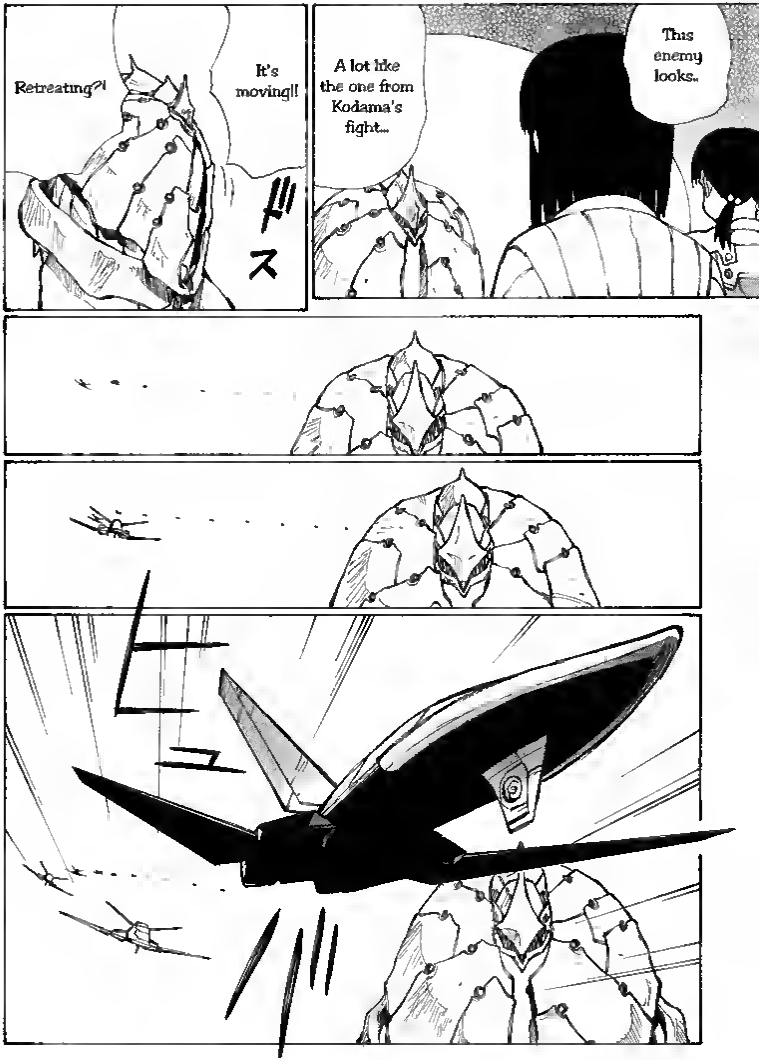




Looks like this enemy's fully prepared.
Dung Beetle,
But from their perspective,
we should be much *more* intimidating
Fifteen shits.
Seven lights remaining.
They've won their share of battles.
This Earth's conventional weaponry shouldn't be any stronger against Zearth.
Is this showing their inexperience?

I'm okay
Probably not. Not that I'd know from expenence
It doesn't hurt them, does it?
If I win, and the other people disappear,
I can do this.
I think


Retreating?!
It's moving!!
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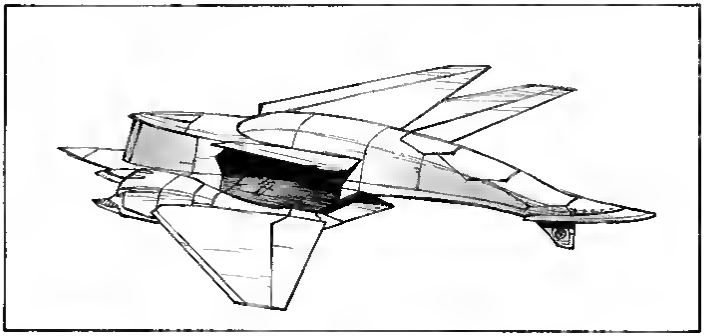
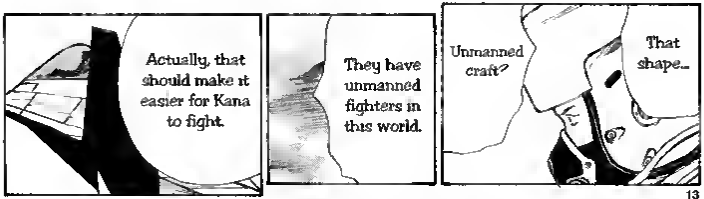
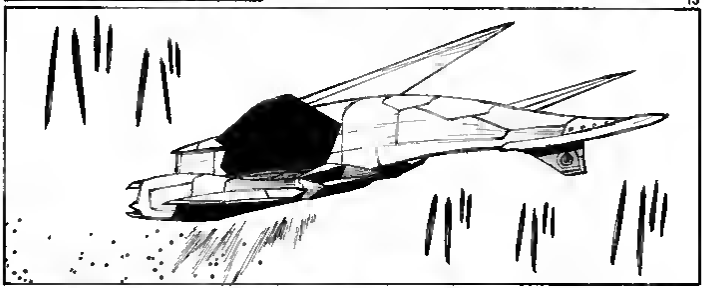
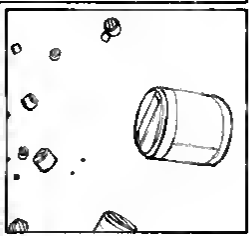
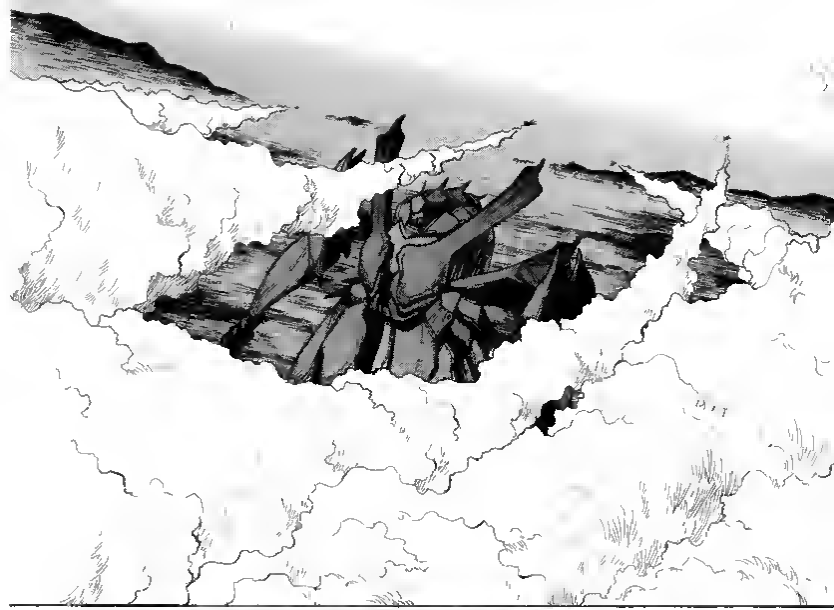
A lot like the one from Kodama's fight...
This enemy looks..

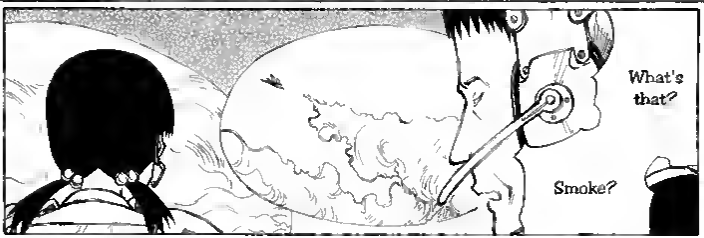



That shape...
Unmanned craft?
They have unmanned fighters in this world.
Actually, that should make it easier for Kana to fight.

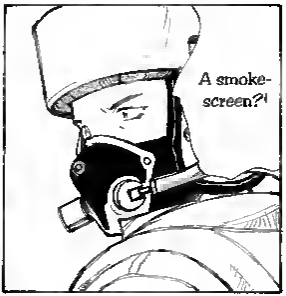






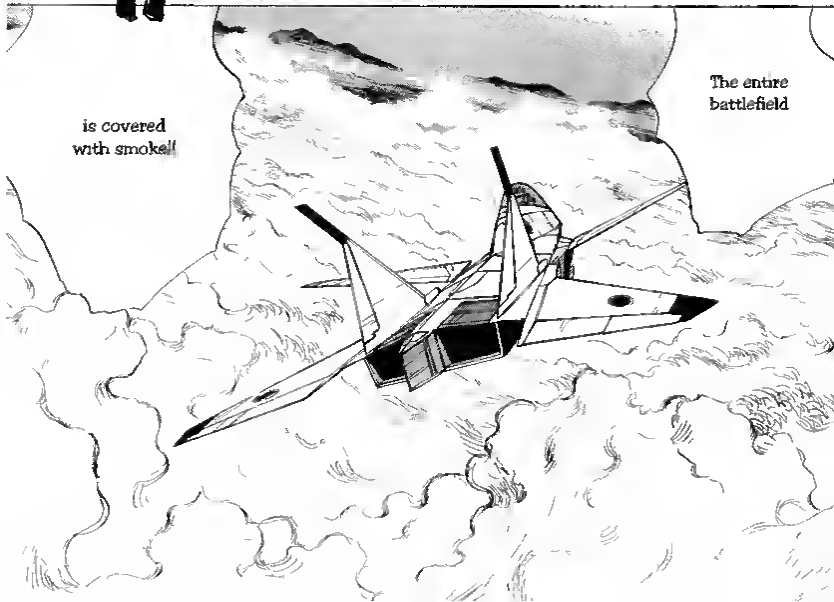

What's that?
Smoke?

We can't see the enemy!!


A smoke-screen?!

Huh?
Kana!!
Move away from there!!

I can't see them!!
Mrs. Tanaka!!
Ah!!


is covered with smoke!!
The entire battlefield

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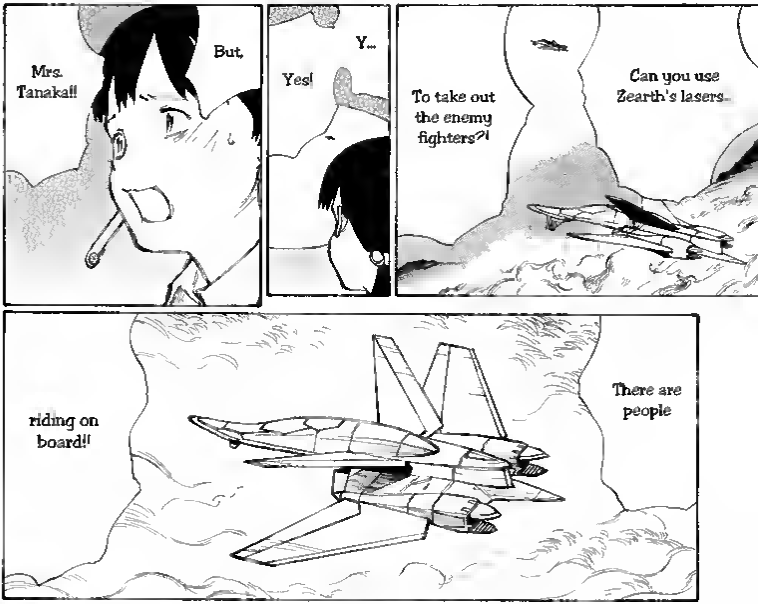
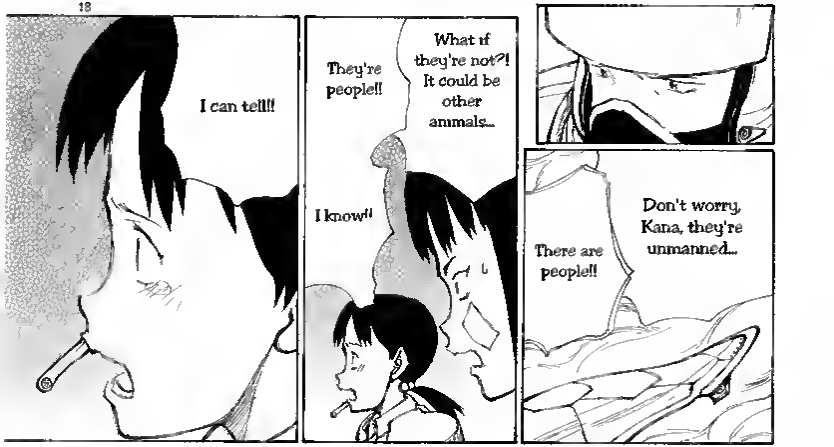
so completely effective!!
But at the same time,
It's so primitive...
that fell off!!
It's using a piece of Zearth's armor
Y-yes!
Kana, can you hear me?!
Good, communications are holding up
In that case...
I can read the enemy's position on the Model 88's radar,
but I can't communicate the info to Kana well enough to be useful
The enemy clearly senses Zearth's location.
Is it using some kind of radar?

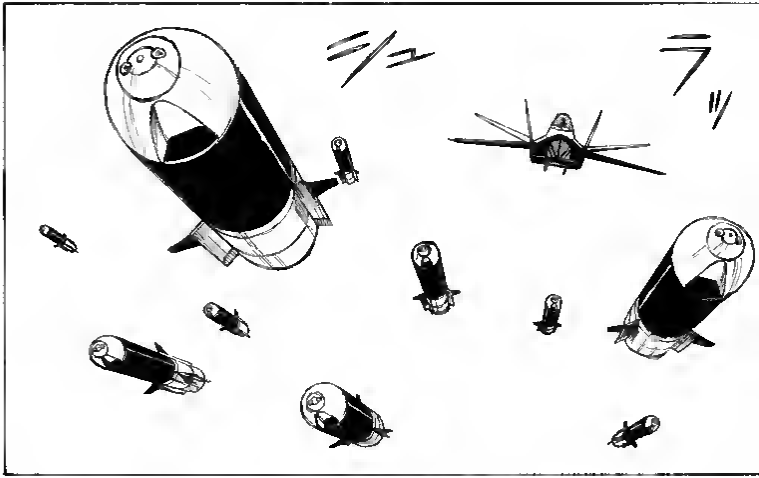

But,
Mrs. Tanaka!!
Y...
Yes!
Can you use Zearth's lasers
To take out the enemy fighters?!
There are people
riding on board!!

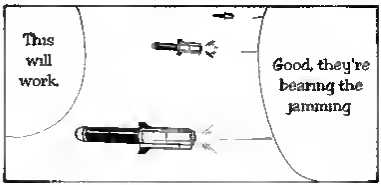

I can tell!!
They're people!!
What if they're not?! It could be other animals...
I know!!
There are people!!
Don't worry, Kana, they're unmanned...

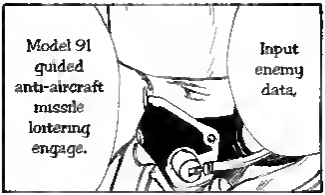
You realize what you're trying to accomplish will kill all of them anyway!
What does it matter if one or two of them--
But...
I don't want...
to *hurt* them.
At the very least, you'll have to kill the enemy pilot.
Are you saying you can't even do that?
I...

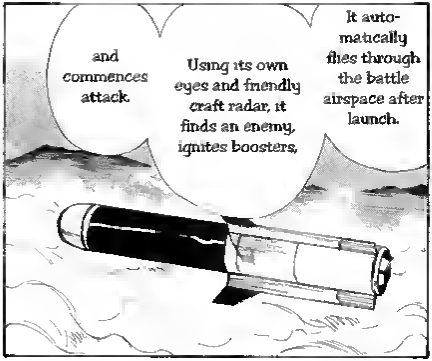
Well, I guess it's a lot like us
First the smoke, now this. This planet is...
People in an unmanned jet?
I'll handle them.
Don't worry
Captain Tanaka, the enemy fighters are...
Kana, keep changing positions and swing your arms around in defense!!
20
Gotta clean them up before then.
They'll be sending standard fighters to come and deal with me soon.
But they're not attacking, which means they must not be equipped for standard air-to-air combat.
They must have noticed me already

in a one-on-one engagement,
But,
it'll be a battle of skill between me and them.
Well then,
the Model 88 is unparalleled!!

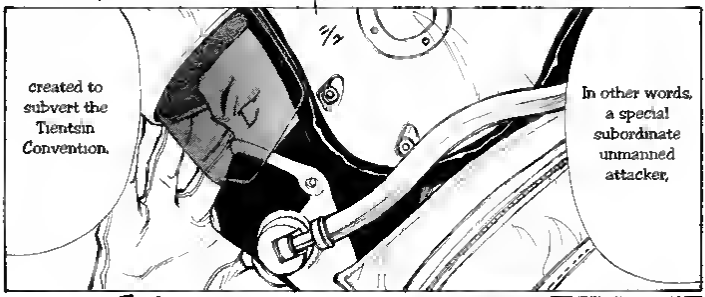



This will work.
Good, they're bearing the jamming


Model 91 guided anti-aircraft missile loitering engage.
Input enemy data,


and commences attack.
Using its own eyes and friendly craft radar, it finds an enemy, ignites boosters,
It automatically flies through the battle airspace after launch.

The Model 91 is the world's most expensive anti-aircraft missile


created to subvert the Tientsin Convention.
In other words, a special subordinate unmanned attacker,

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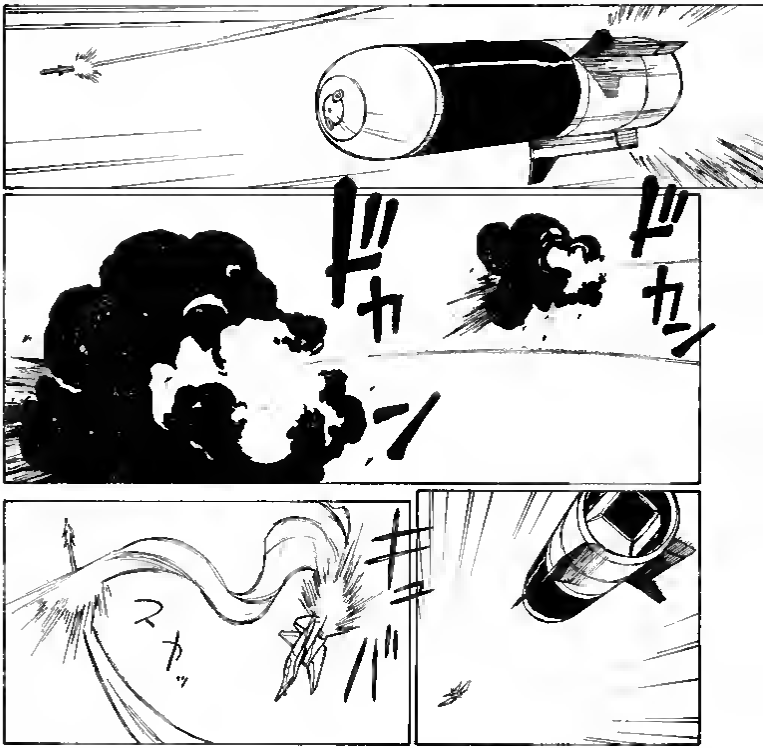
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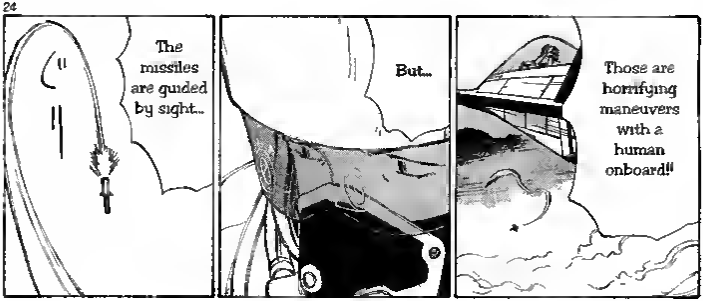
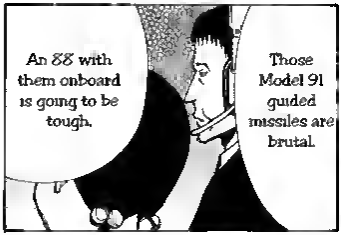
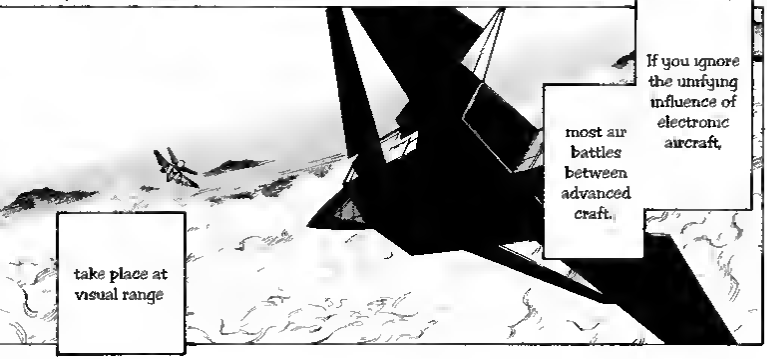

The missiles are guided by sight...
But...
Those are horrifying maneuvers with a human onboard!!

The smoke's clearing out!

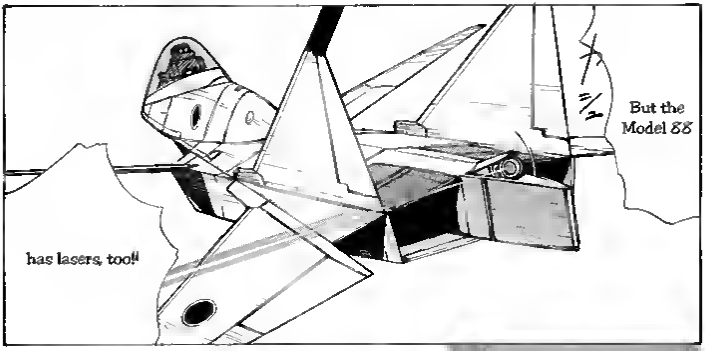
So you can't get away!!

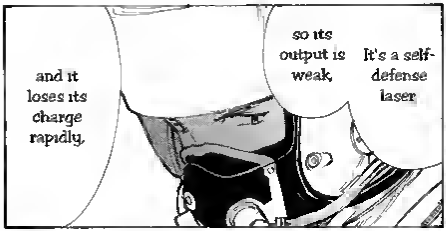
Mrs. Tanaka...
is fighting...

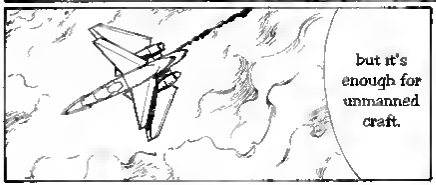

Those Model 91 guided missiles are brutal.
An 88 with them onboard is going to be tough.

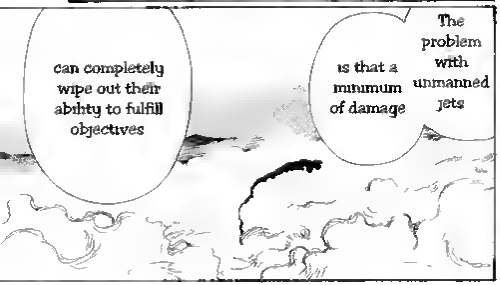

If you ignore the unifying influence of electronic aircraft,
most air battles between advanced craft,
take place at visual range

Next!!
That's what the Model 88 was developed for.
Look, I'm sorry to disappoint you.
More insane maneuvers!!

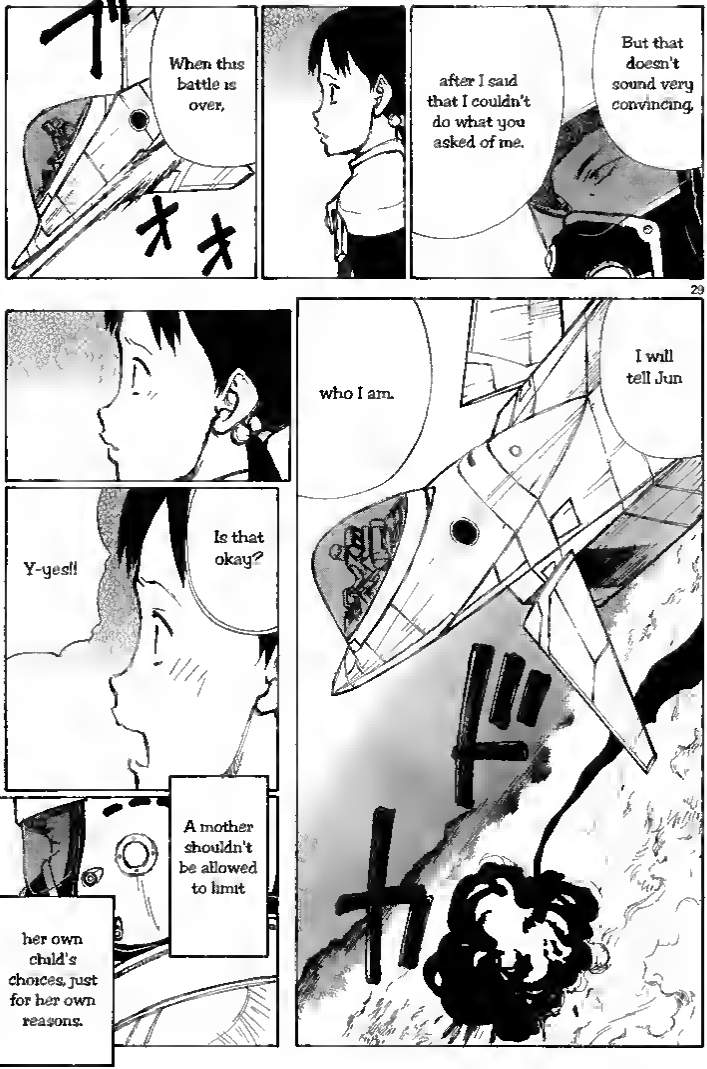

But the Model 88
has lasers, too!!


It's a self-defense laser
so its output is weak,
and it loses its charge rapidly.


but it's enough for unmanned craft.


The problem with unmanned jets
is that a minimum of damage
can completely wipe out their ability to fulfill objectives

I realize this sounds like a lie, and it will be hard for you to believe,
Y-yes!
Kana, can you hear me?
as like a daughter to me.
but I do think of you
28
I signed the contract.
That's why
for my children.
I would do anything
who's involved with Zearth.
The same with everyone


When this battle is over,
after I said that I couldn't do what you asked of me.
But that doesn't sound very convincing.
29
who I am.
I will tell Jun
Is that okay?
Y-yes!!
A mother shouldn't be allowed to limit
her own child's choices, just for her own reasons.

I'll tell Jun everything
When Jun learns everything
and chooses to act on it,
I can only accept
whatever choices he makes of his own accord.

I don't even have the right
Besides,
to wish for Jun to live.

But only...
Yes, the Model 88 is powerful.
She wiped them all out... in an instant...
Wow...
31
from a certain standardized usage
if you don't stray

Y-yes!!
Can you handle this?
Mrs. Tanaka..
I have to win.
If I can win..
32
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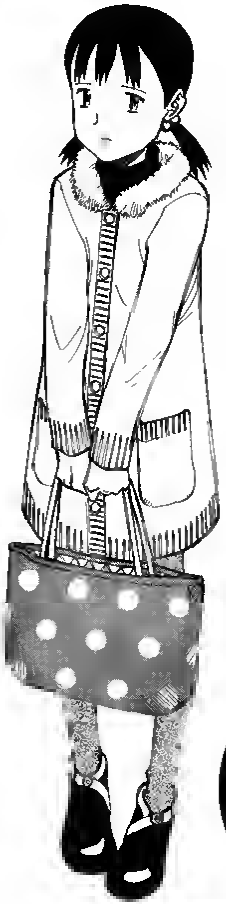
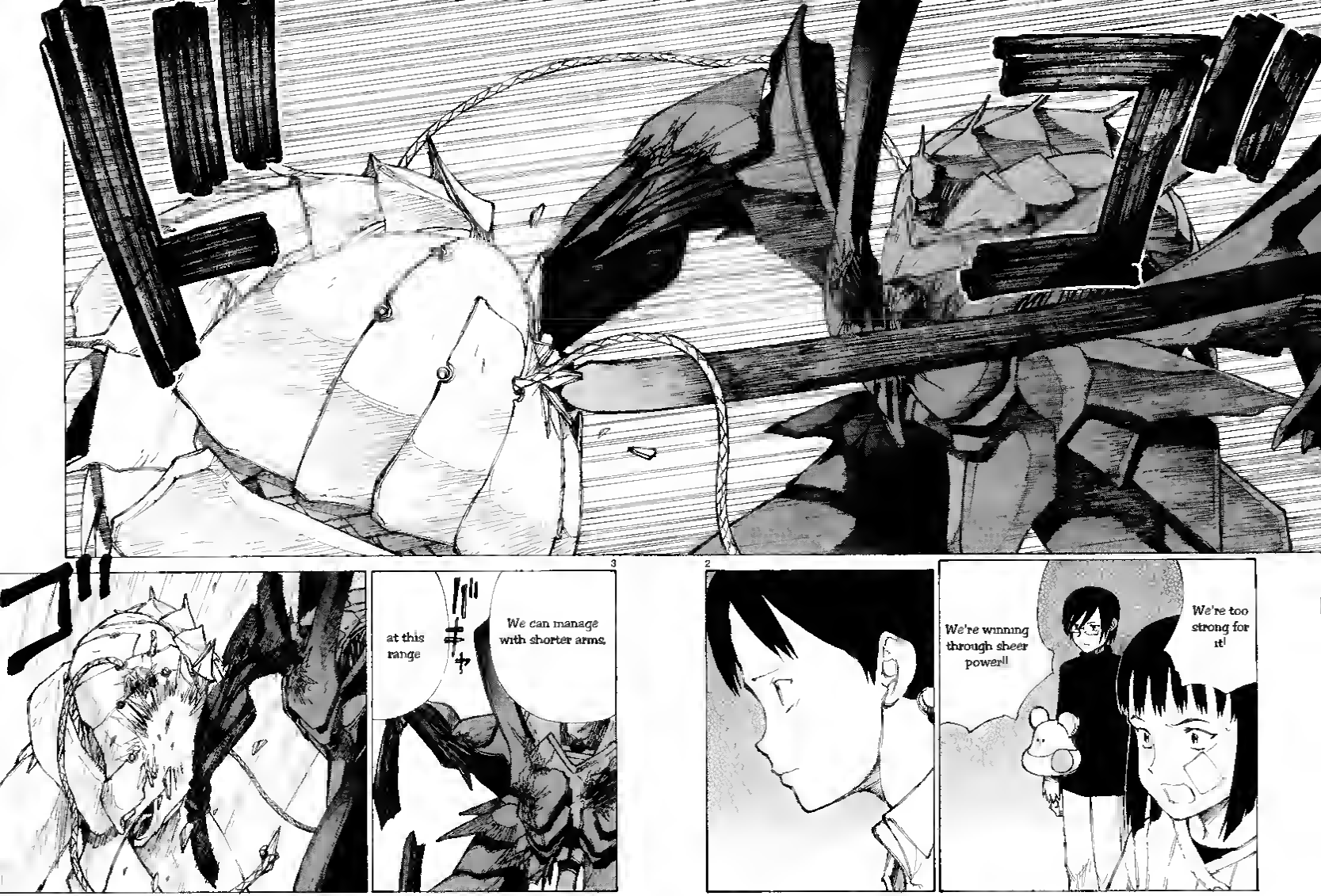
Chapter 52
Kana Ushiro (5)

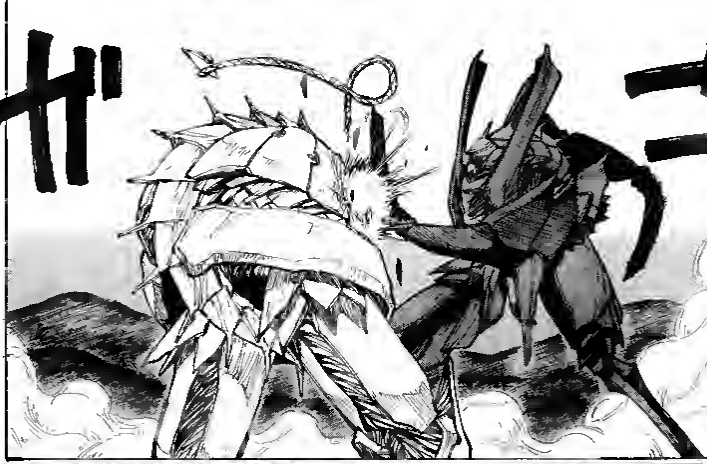
When the fight is over, I can reveal the truth to my brother.

It is the only reason I can bring myself to fight.



鬼頭莫宏
Kito Mohiro


3
We can manage with shorter arms.
at this range
2
We're too strong for it!
We're winning through sheer power!!



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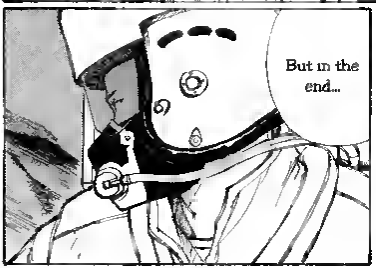
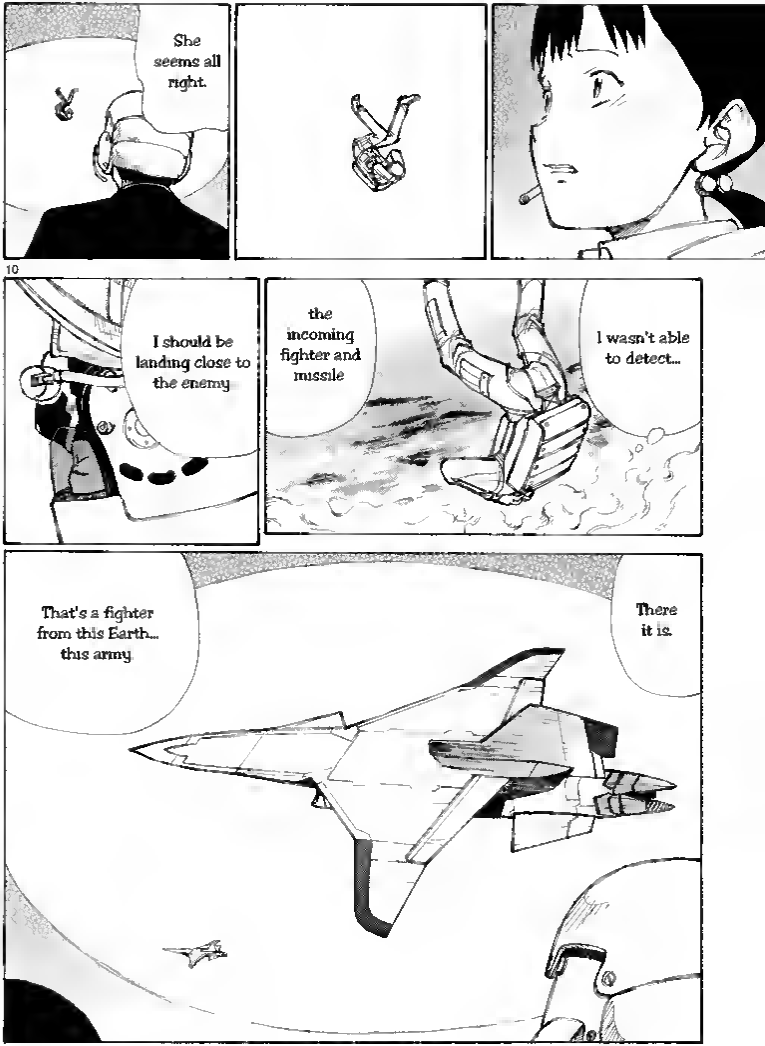


the enemy pilot?
Will she able to finish off...
my duty...?
Will that be...
Either way.

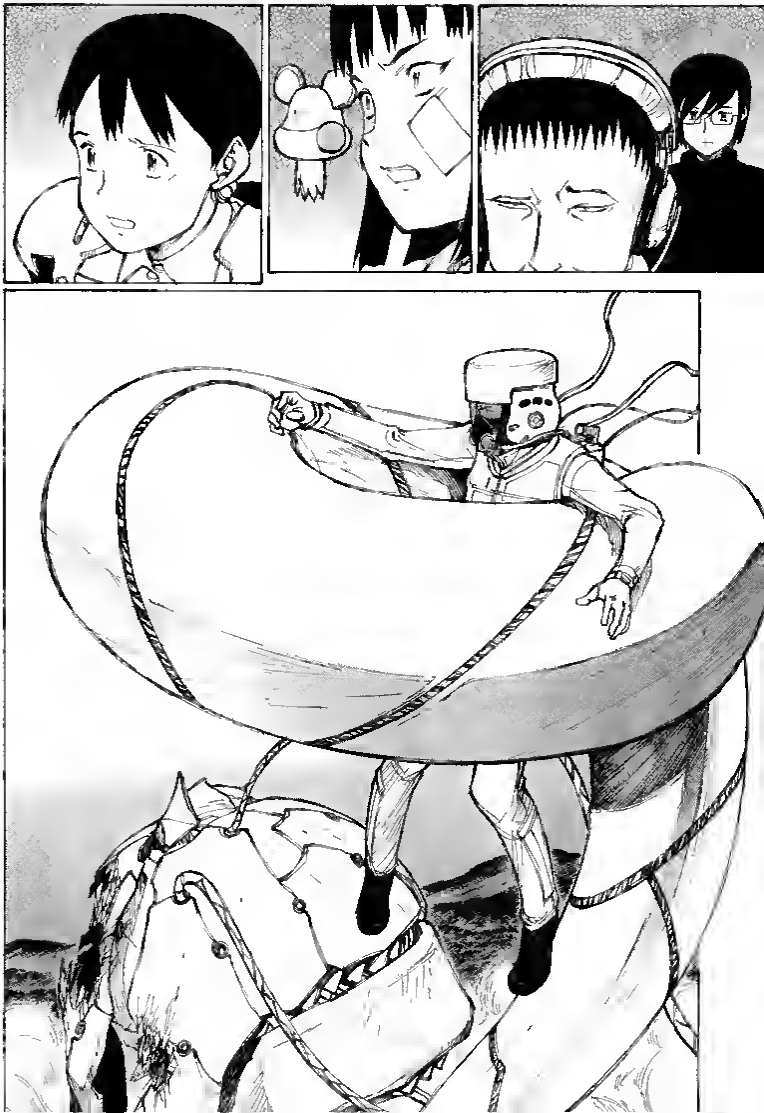
That should do it.

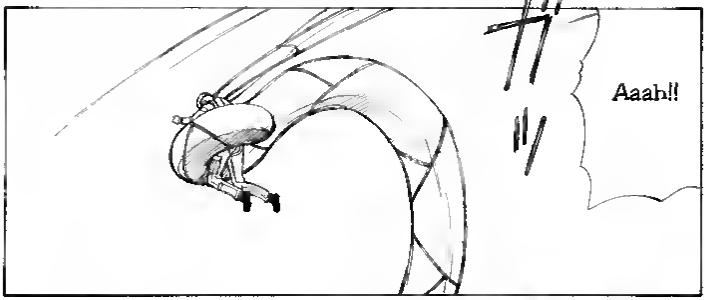
Was that an enemy fighter?!
I wasn't paying attention!
Mrs. Tanaka?!

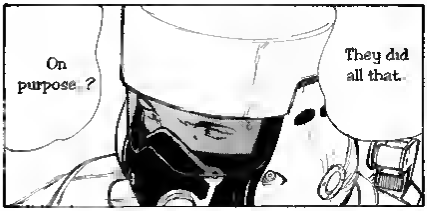

She seems all right.
I should be landing close to the enemy
the incoming fighter and missile
I wasn't able to detect...
That's a fighter from this Earth... this army
There it is.

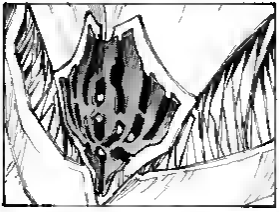
It's not meant to be inserted into a battle situation alone.
The Model 88 is meant to be deployed with a battle control craft, or as a flight unit.*
I guess that's why you don't fly solo.
Oh well.
I'll just have to evade until the battle is over.

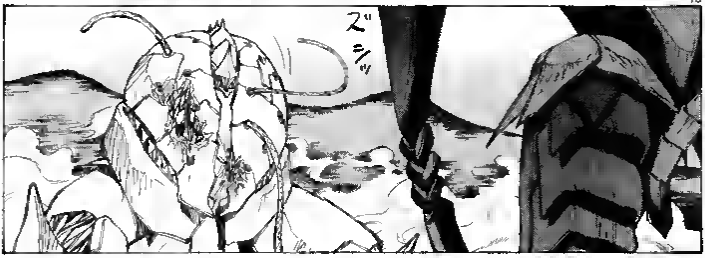
* Flight unit. Standard battle-use arrangement. A flight unit is four aircraft, an element is two.



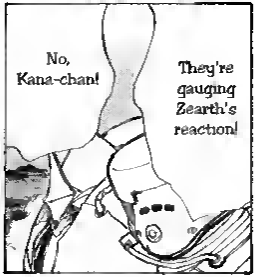

Aaah!!


On purpose...?
They did all that...





Don't stop attacking...


No, Kana-chan!
They're gauging Zearth's reaction!

ドスッ!!
14
ドレュ
Kana!!

ゴ
ドガ
Dung Beetle, you don't think we could teleport her back to...
Of course I can't, idiot.
ドガ
What are you doing?

Fight back.
16
But Mrs Tanaka is...
But...
...
Don't you want to win?
Why are you hesitating?

ドシン
ドシン
Kanji is dead.
Captain Seki is dead.
Why are you bringing that up,
now?

I can't...
L
ドサッ
18
She's part of the contract, anyway.
Mrs. Tanaka...
She's going to die.

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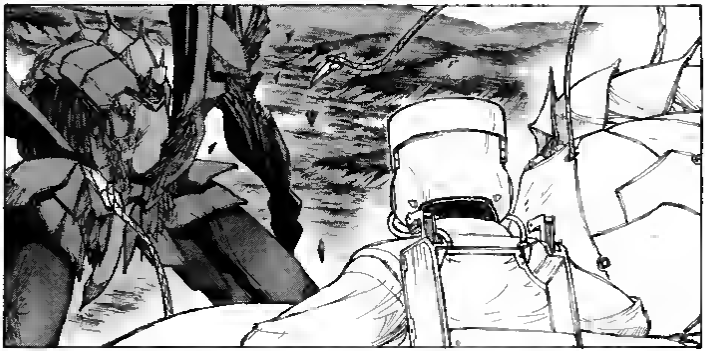
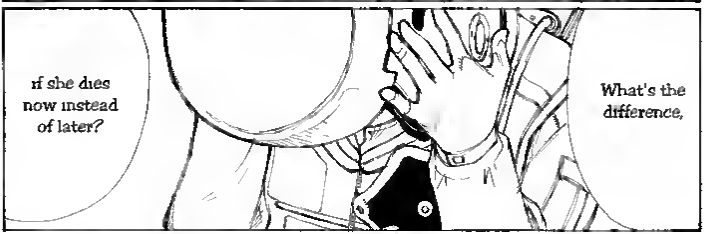
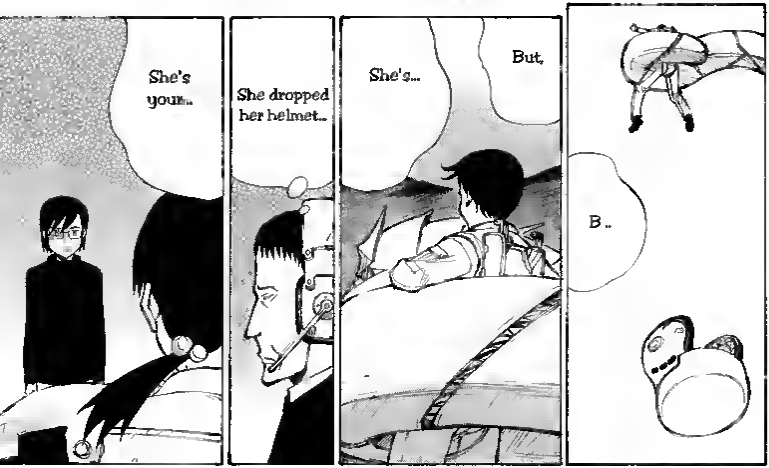
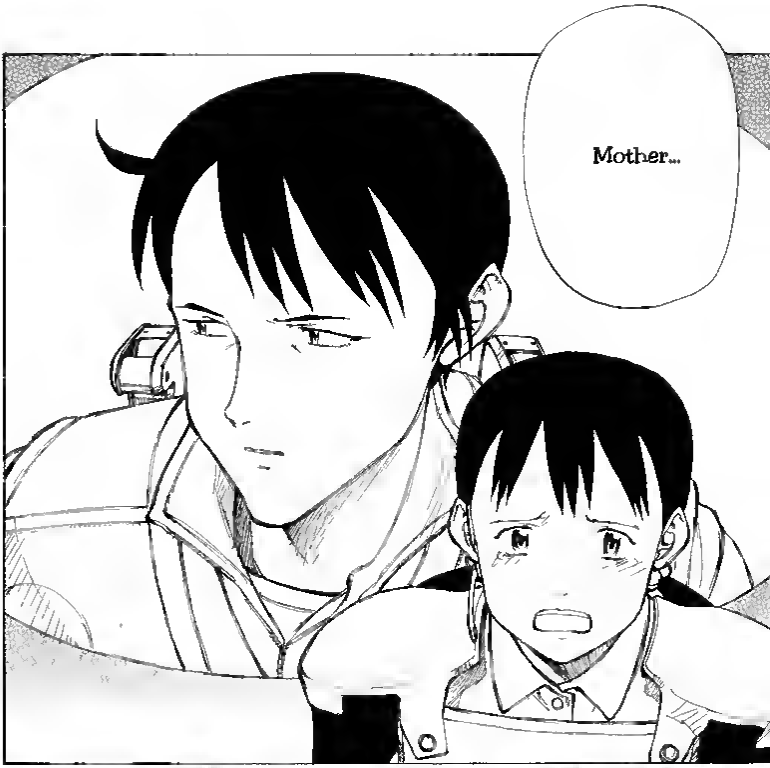
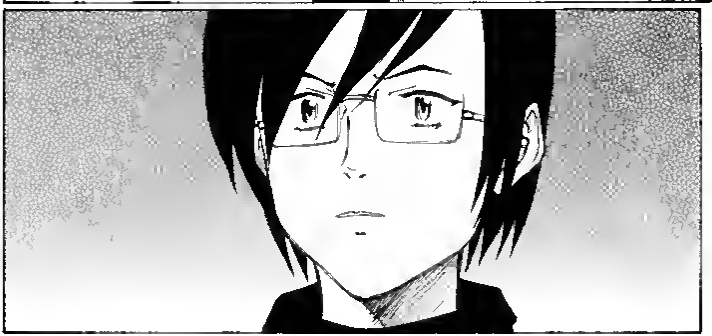


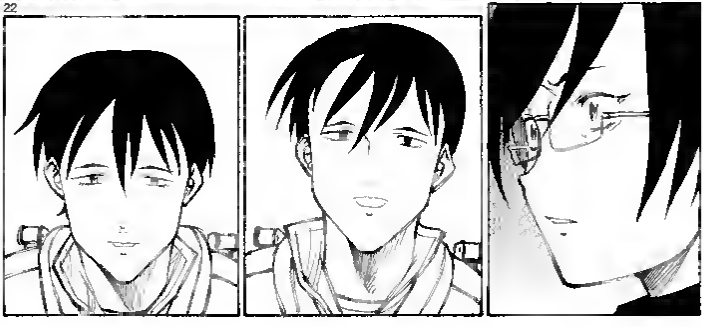

What's the difference,
if she dies now instead of later?


B..
But,
She's...
She dropped her helmet..
She's your..

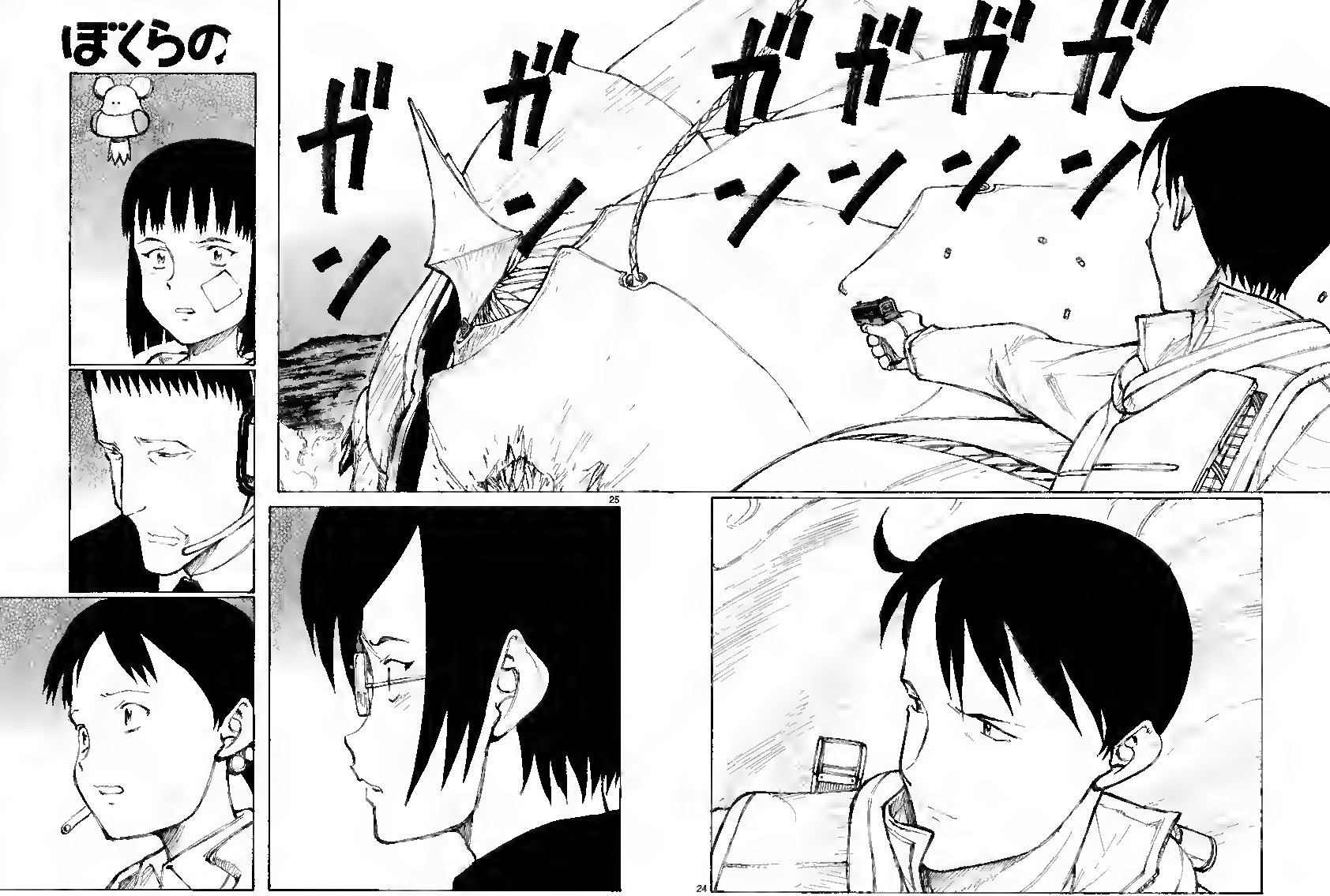

Mother...



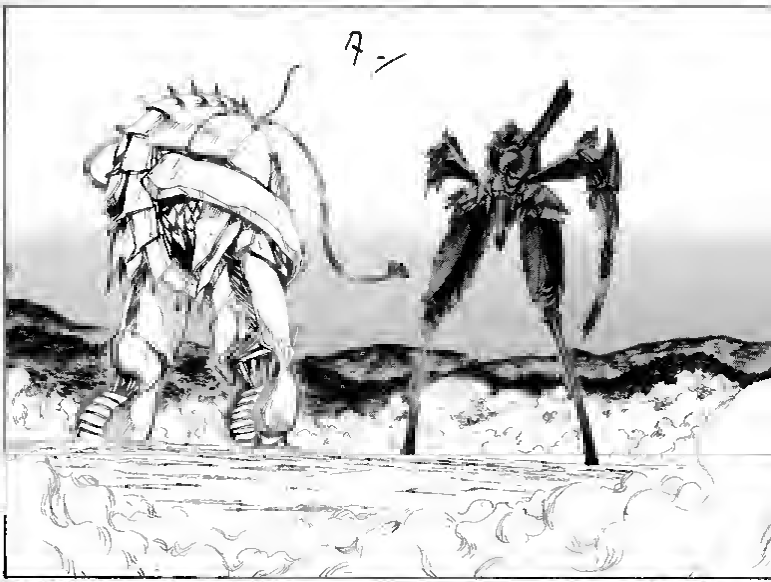
She has to come back alive!
You see?
Huh?
21
What do you...
What...

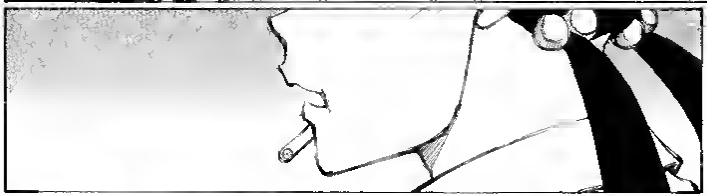


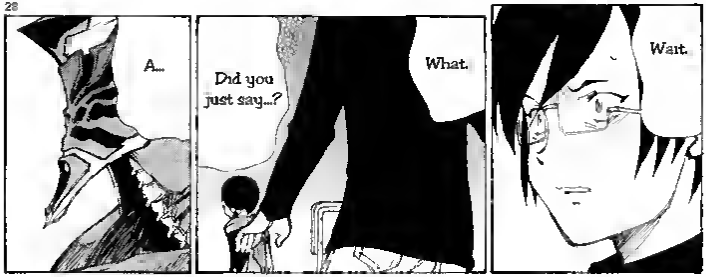
ナ!!
23
ナ!!


ぼくらの
ガン
ガガガガ
ンンンン
25
24

Don't look.
N..

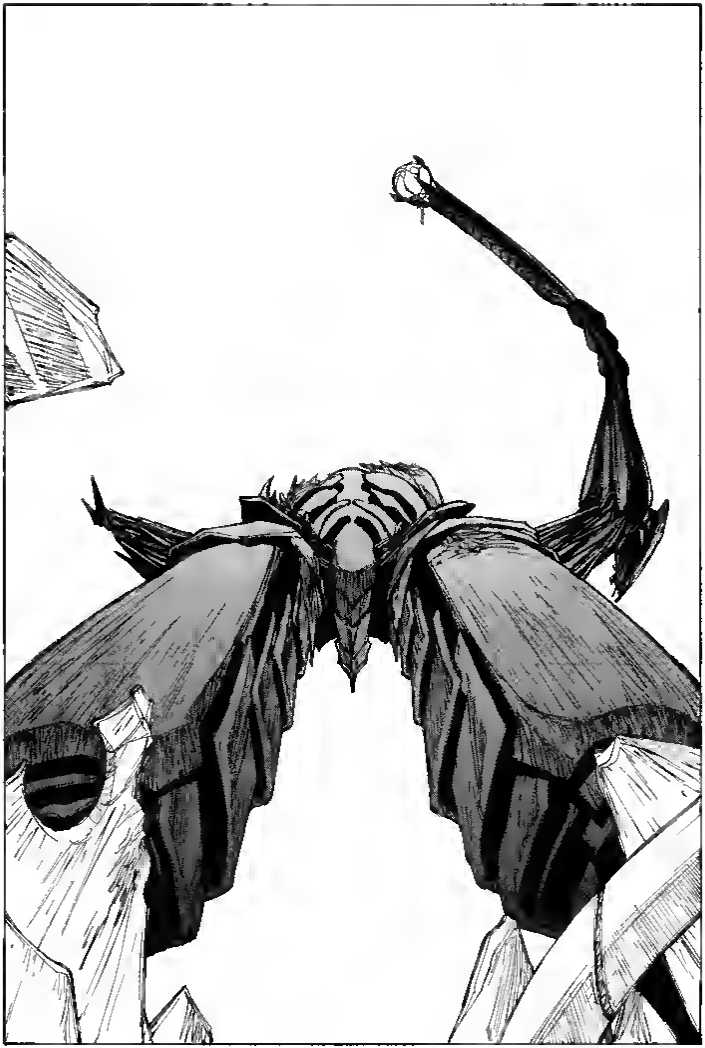


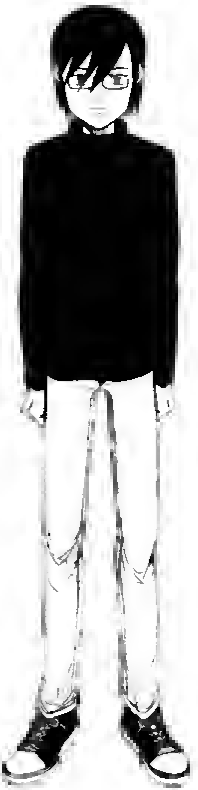



A...
Did you just say...?
What.
Wait.

AAAAA
AAAAA

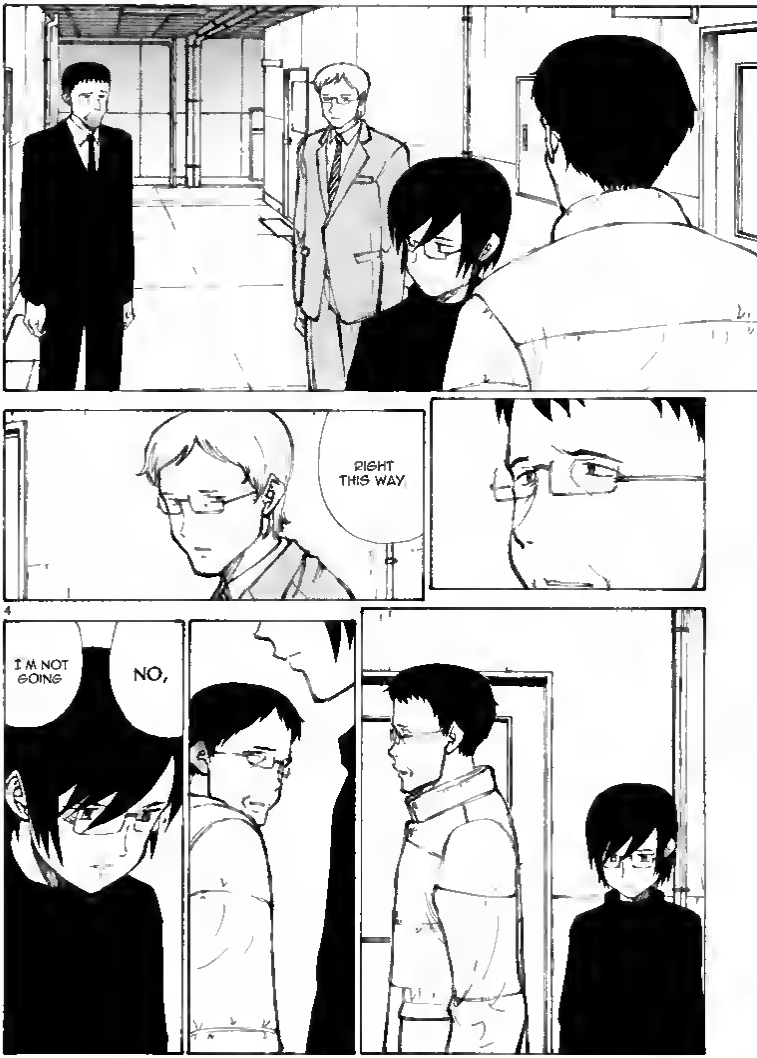
ぼくらの



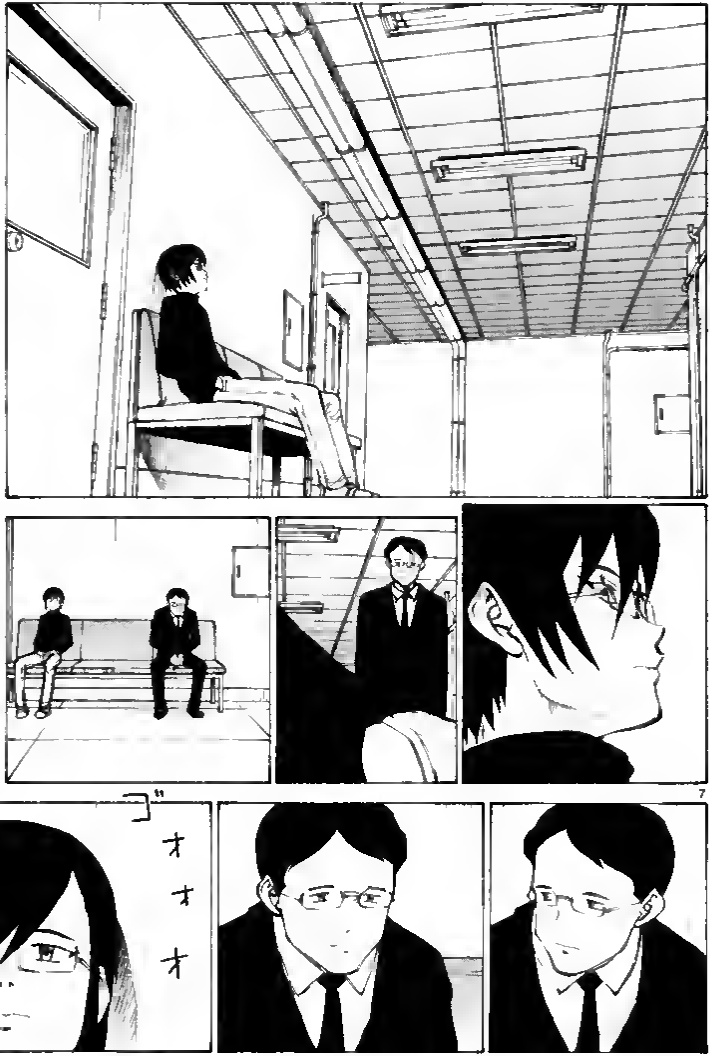


Chapter 53 「Jun Ushiro」 1

JUN..
3
YOU'LL GET SICK
YOU SHOULDN'T BE OUT IN THE COLD LIKE THIS
COME WITH ME

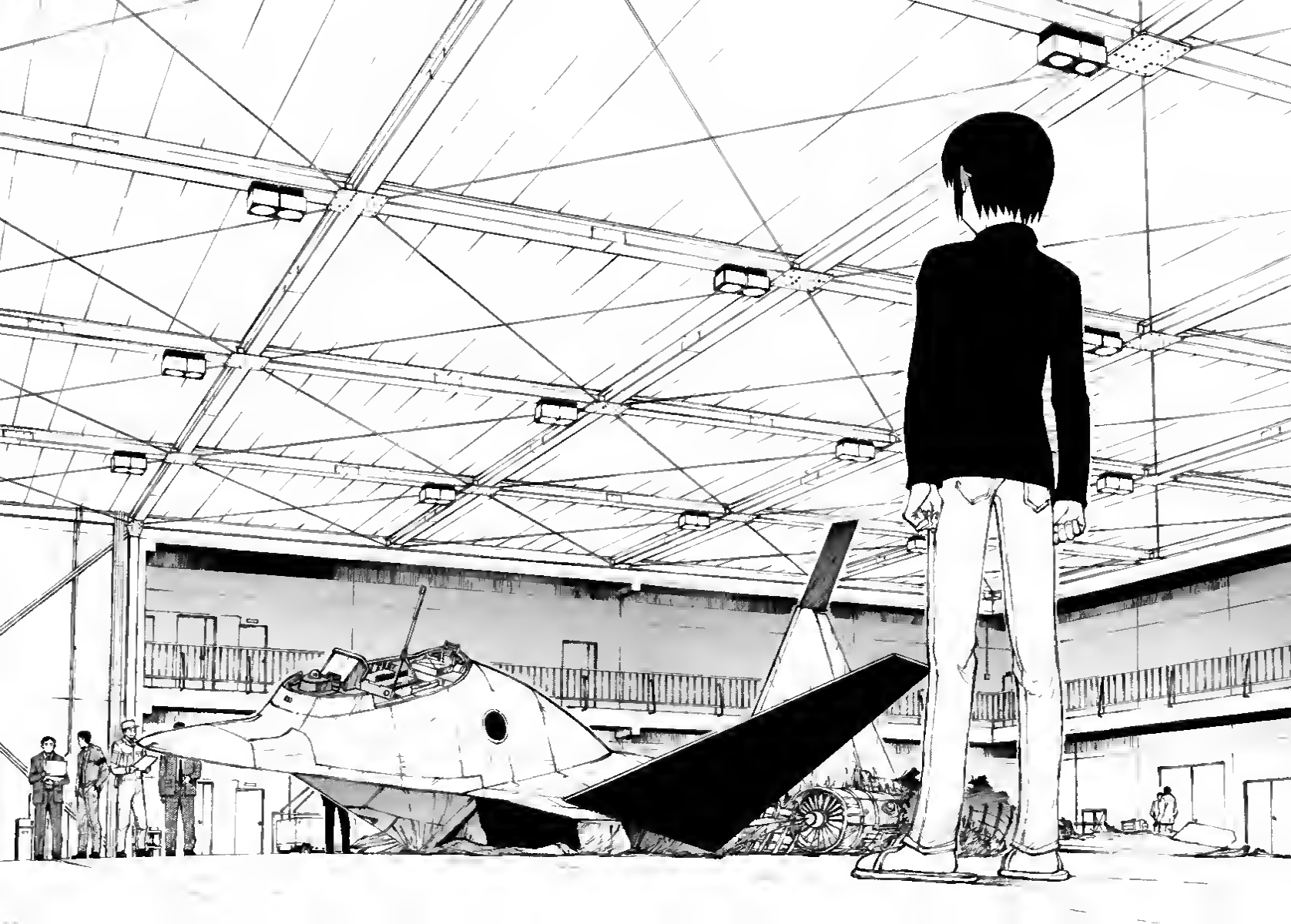

RIGHT THIS WAY
4
I'M NOT GOING
NO,

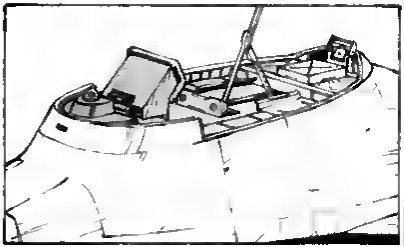
LET'S NOT DO ANYTHING WE MIGHT REGRET

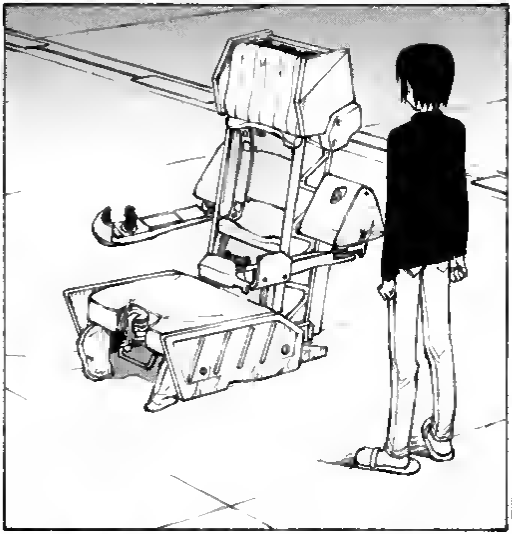

ゴオオオ

I WOULDN'T WATCH, IF I WERE YOU
I THINK THEY'LL EXAMINE HER SOON
THE POLICE ARE HERE NOW
OH
HUH?
IS MRS TANAKA
WHEN SHE WAS BROUGHT INTO ZEARTH
I ALREADY SAW HER,
8
ABOUT HER?
DID YOU KNOW
OF COURSE

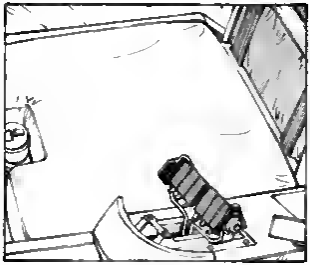
OF COURSE
IF YOU MEAN ABOUT HER AND YOU...
HUH...?
...SHE HAD A DUTY TO SEE OUT
SHE CLAIMED...
ORIGINALLY, MR. SASAMI WAS FIERCELY AGAINST BRINGING HER INTO THE TASK FORCE,
BUT IN THE END HE GAVE IN TO HER ENTHUSIASM
9
...THE REMAINS OF HER BATTLE?
CAN YOU STAND TO SEE...

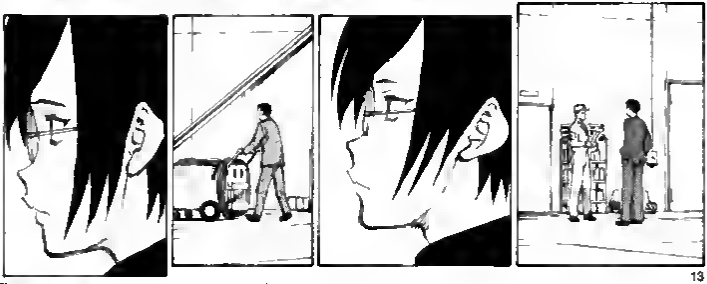






12





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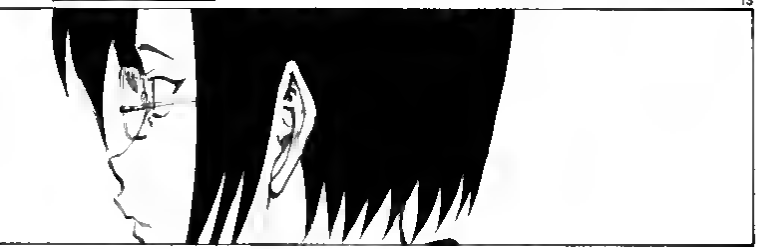
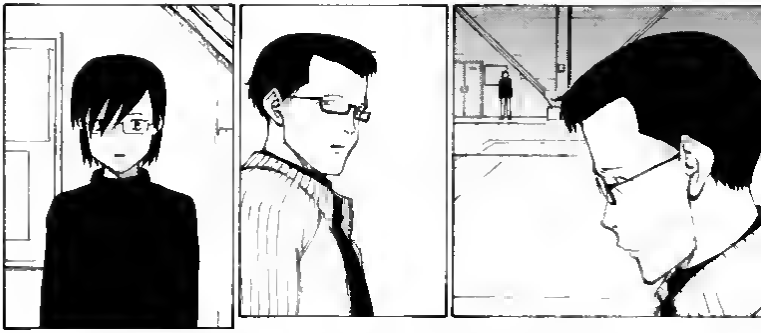
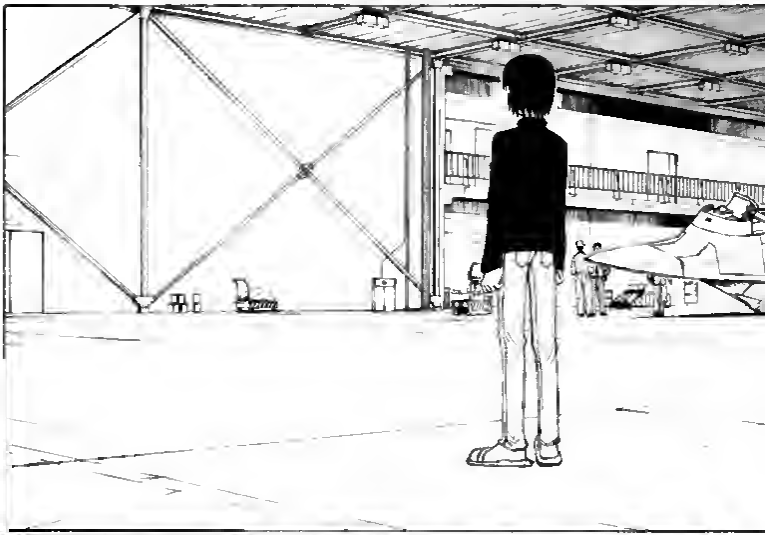


14

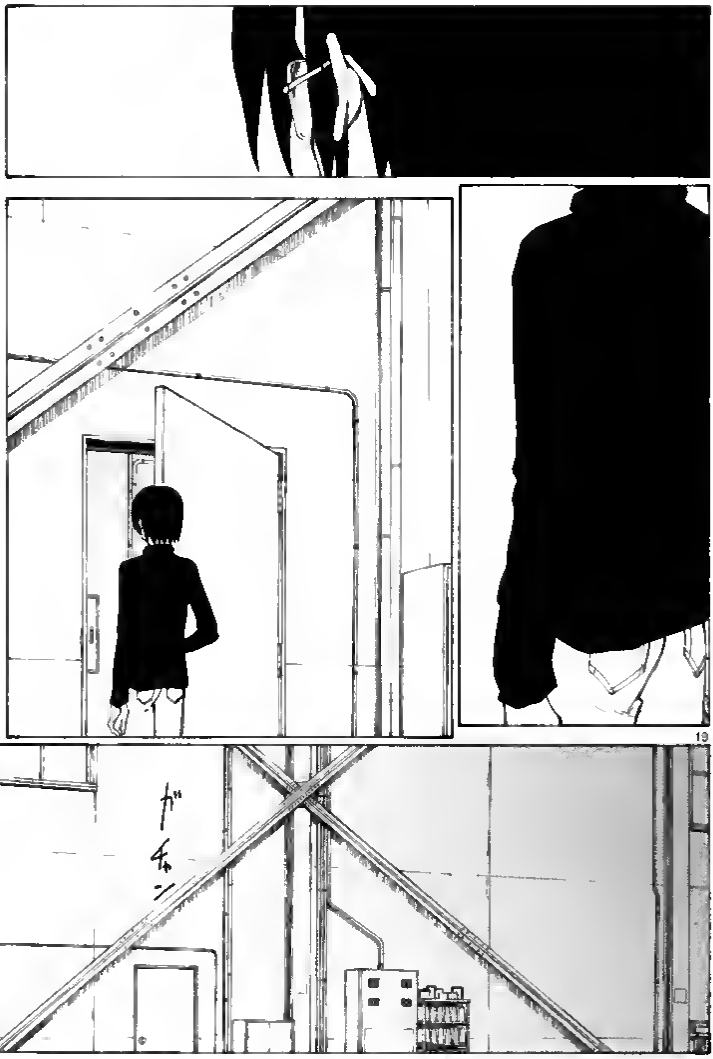
15



16

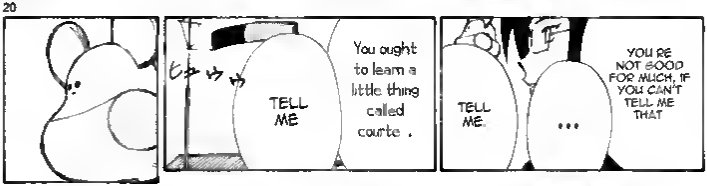


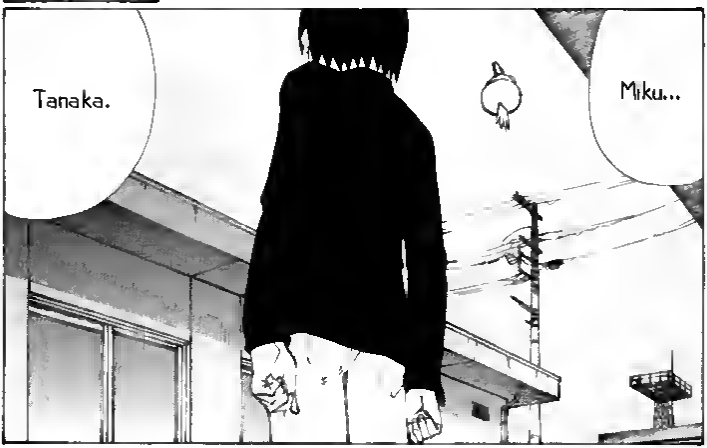
18

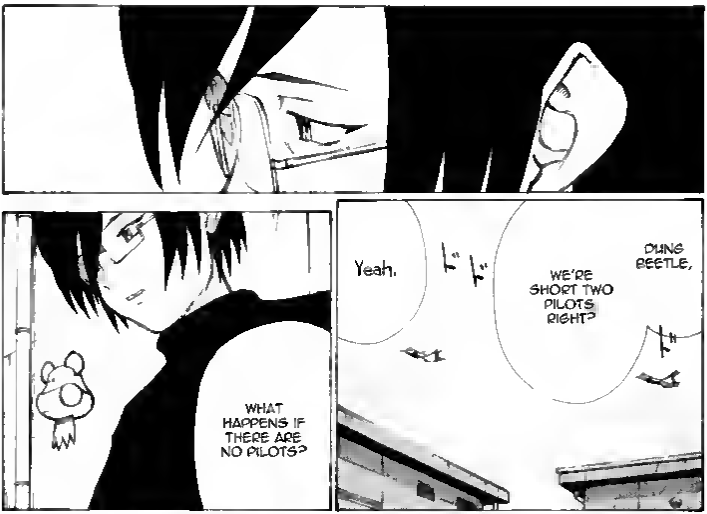

ガチャン

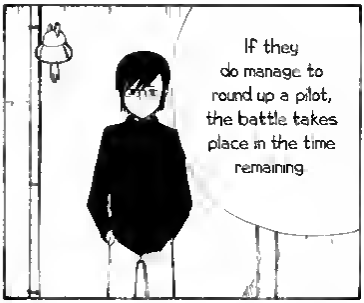
WHO IS SHE?
She? Who's she?
Yo.
DUNG BEETLE
ヒュウ

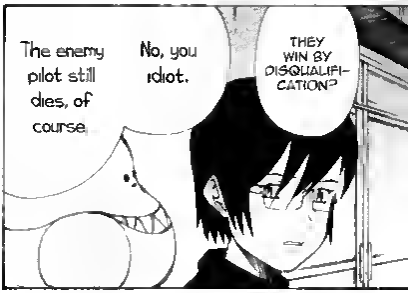
20


TELL ME
You ought to learn a little thing called courte .
TELL ME.
...
YOU'RE NOT GOOD FOR MUCH, IF YOU CAN'T TELL ME THAT


Tanaka.
Miku...


WHAT HAPPENS IF THERE ARE NO PILOTS?
Yeah.
DUNG BEETLE,
WE'RE SHORT TWO PILOTS, RIGHT?
21
the other side wins.
If a pilot is not contracted within 24 hours of the battle's start,
Any attacks to the toy at that time are nullified.
The battle begins, regardless of the presence of a pilot or not


If they do manage to round up a pilot, the battle takes place in the time remaining.

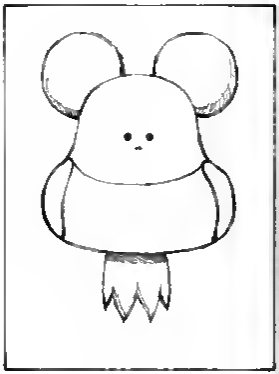

THEY WIN BY DISQUALIFICATION?
No, you idiot.
The enemy pilot still dies, of course.

22

ヒュ.

...is probably to assist in that case.
The reason I can still teleport back home in an away battle...

DUNG BEETLE.



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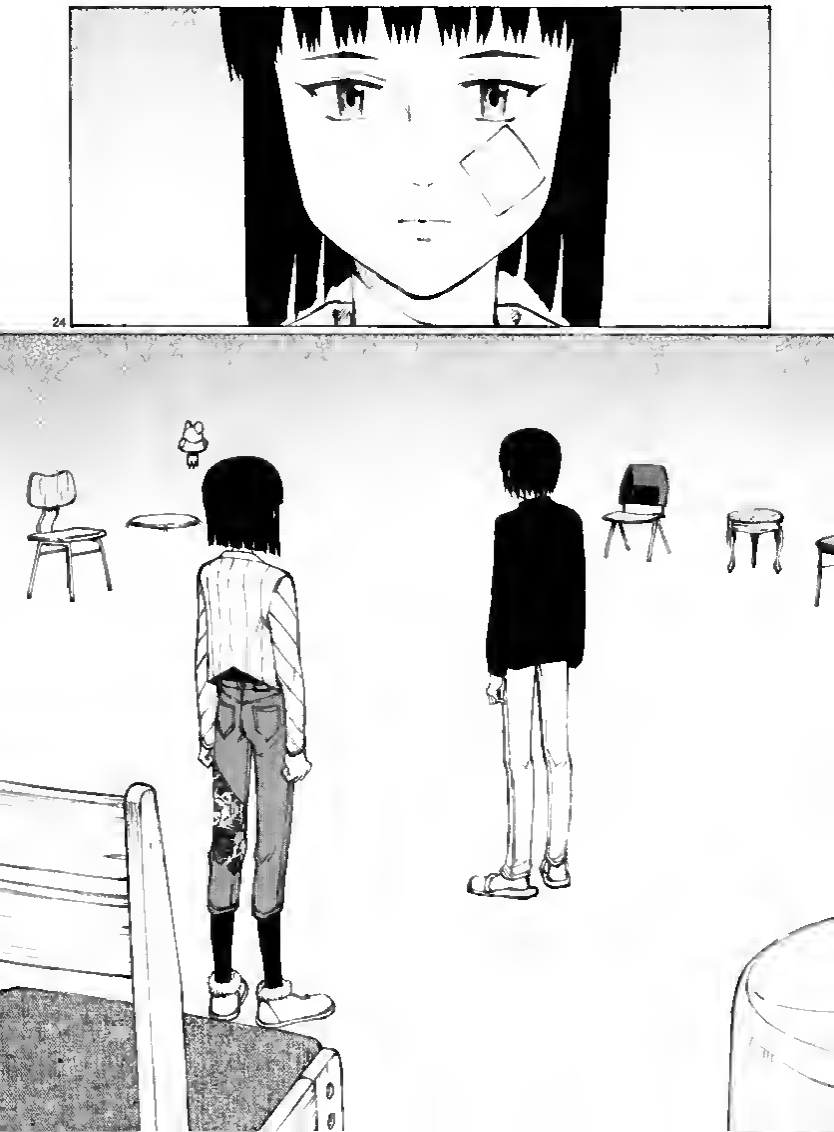
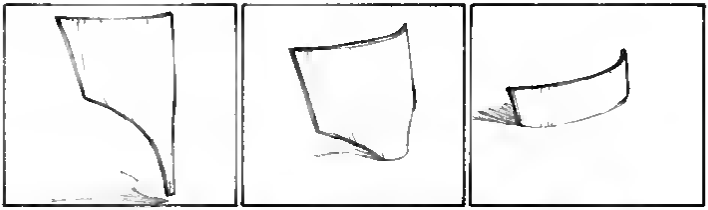
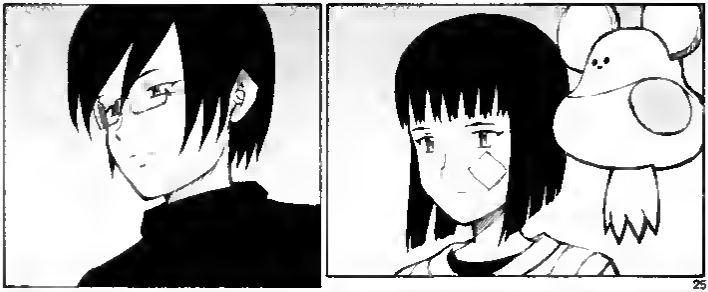
...TO SIGN ME UP.
I WANT YOU..
23



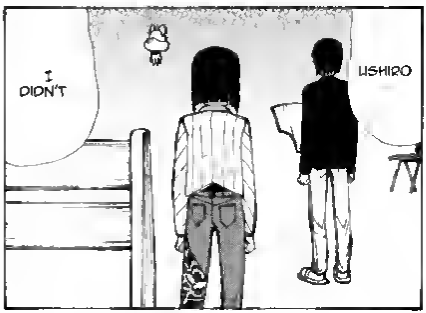


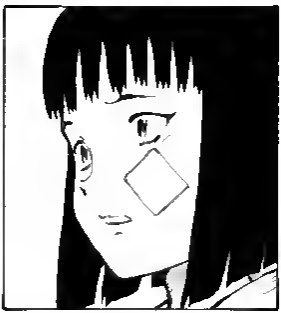


ISHIRO
THERE'S NO NEED TO SIGN OUT OF ANY FEELING OF GUILT OR RESPONSIBILITY
YOU NEED TO KEEP GOING, FOR KANA AND KANJI AND MRS TANAKA'S SAKE
MR SASAMI WILL LOOK FOR PILOTS TO FILL THE HOLES
THAT SHOULD BE GOOD ENOUGH
I WANTED TO SIGN
IT'S OKAY TO LIVE THAT WAY
YOU CAN ACHIEVE THAT JUST BY STAYING PUT AND LIVING ON

THAT'S WHAT KANA WANTED, RIGHT?
IT'S ALL THE SAME
Don't bring this crap up.
Hey, dammit.
27
NO MATTER WHO DIES
THEY'RE ALL MEANINGLESS STRANGERS TO PEOPLE WHO DON'T KNOW US.
KANA, AND KANJI, AND MRS. TANAKA.
AND SOMEONE ELSE WILL HAVE TO MOURN.
SO IN EXCHANGE, SOMEONE WE DON'T KNOW HAS TO DIE,
IS THE LEAD ROLE OF THEIR LIFE.
EVERY DIFFERENT HUMAN BEING...

...WOULD BE LOVED BY THEIR PARENTS AND SIBLINGS, TOO
AND THOSE PEOPLE...

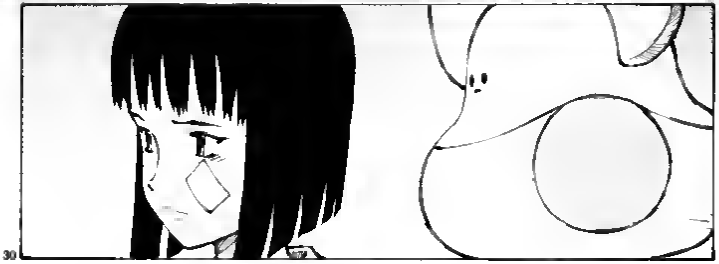

I DIDN'T
USHIRO

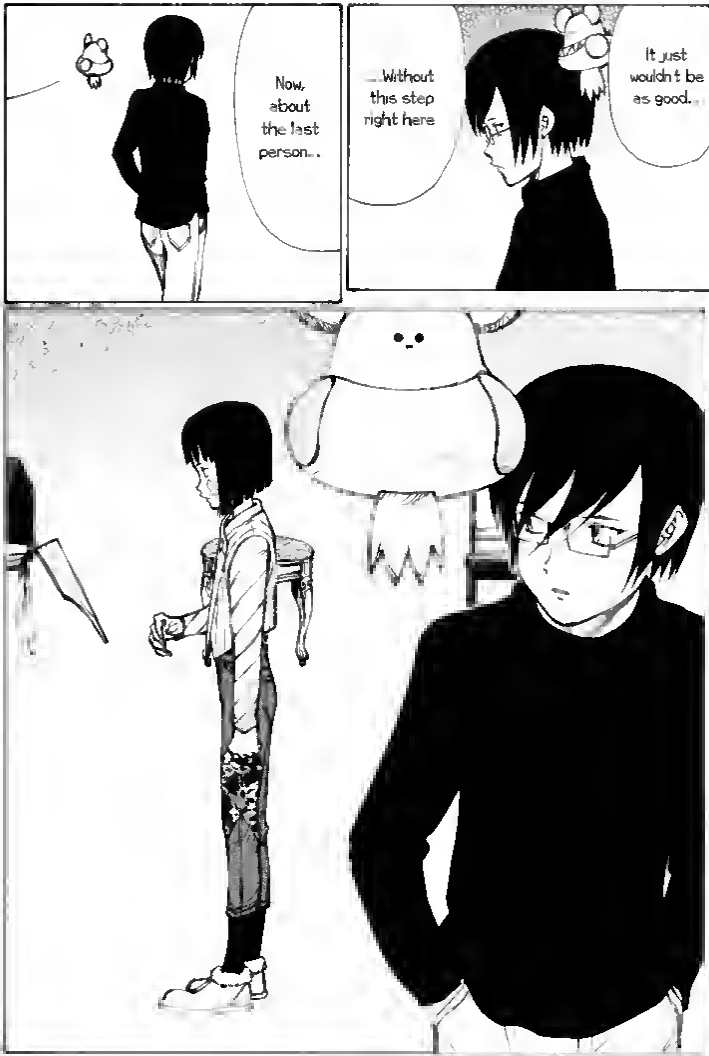


28

I'LL DO IT.

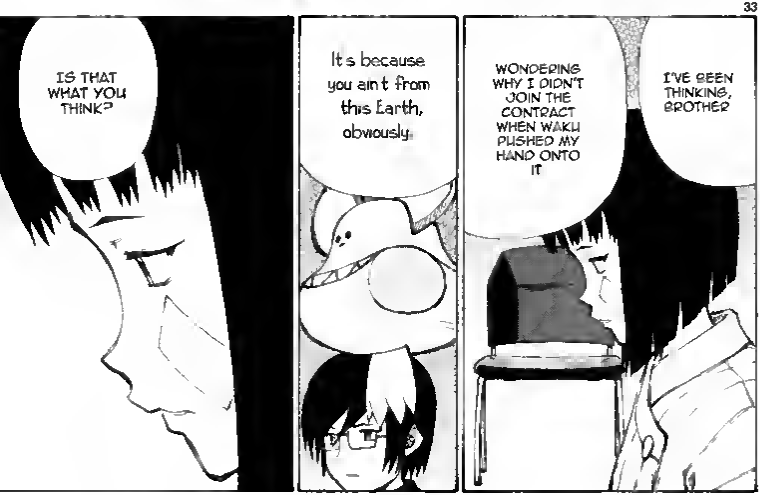
29




Now, about the last person...
...Without this step right here
It just wouldn't be as good...

What the hell are you doing?
That's a waste of time.
You can't sign it.

33


I'VE BEEN THINKING, BROTHER
WONDERING WHY I DIDN'T JOIN THE CONTRACT WHEN WAKU PUSHED MY HAND ONTO IT
It's because you ain't from this Earth, obviously.
IS THAT WHAT YOU THINK?

WHAT IF
THAT WASN'T
THE REASON?

DUNG BEETLE PRESENTS:

Bokurano 53

Translation:
Stephen
(MangaScreener)

Editing:
Luco

So, MS ended up being so slow that the ETA for future chapters was infinity. Soomething had to be done so I have diligently stepped in to fill the void. I kind of used MangaScreeners translation and little first page thingy without permission, but since the translation was right on their site, and the page is on every release, I didn't think they would mind.

To more important matters: If you want to see more Bokurano...I need help! A translator is a MUST to see anything more from me. I also require raws of chapter 54 and 55. SO, if you can help with one of these two things, drop me a line at luco_00@hotmail.com. If you can't, don't expect anything else from me.